

Dykes To Watch Out For

by Alison Bechdel

As well
as
this
Book
No
PDF
of
these
Books

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*The Indelible Alison Bechdel: Confessions, Comix, and Miscellaneous
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Dykes To Watch Out For: The Sequel

New, Improved! Dykes To Watch Out For

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Dykes To Watch Out For

SPLIT-LEVEL

Dykes To Watch Out For

by Alison Bechdel



Firebrand
Books
Ithaca, New York

Alison Bechdel's cartoons appear regularly in over sixty publications internationally.

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Book and cover design by Alison Bechdel and Debra Engstrom
Printed in Canada

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Bechdel, Alison

Split-level dykes to watch out for / by Alison Bechdel.

p. cm.

ISBN 1-56341-102-4 (pbk. : alk. paper). — ISBN 1-56341-103-2 (cloth : alk. paper)

1. Lesbians—United States—Comic books, strips, etc.

2. Lesbianism—United States—Comic books, strips, etc. 3. American wit and humor, Pictorial. I. Title.

HQ75.6.U5B425 1998

306.76'63'0207—dc21

98-44382

CIP

for Amy Rubin

For their patient and thoughtful help with crazed, last-minute research questions, I'm grateful to Susie Day, Deb Lashman, Ben Lashman-Van Buren, Jackie Marino, Manny Neuzil, Melinda Scott, Barbara Smith, Jane Van Buren, and Pat Winer. I'm indebted to Bonnie Morris, Esther Rothblum, Linnea Stenson, and Kerry Walk for the generous career advice they've provided for my academic characters. Thanks to Paula Myrick, Amey Radcliffe, Ann Reading, Steph Salmon, and the Copy Goddess, for their sundry technical assistance. Thanks to Sarah Van Arsdale, Morgan Shore, and Lynette Reep, for modeling and moral support. To Helen Bechdel, for all the late-night grammar and reference aid. To Amy Rubin, for her lavish editorial help, and for all the ideas in this book that are really hers. And to Nancy Bereano of Firebrand Books, my publishing heroine, for keeping the press rolling.

WHEN WE LAST
DROPPED IN, THINGS
WERE LOOKING
UNCHARACTERISTICALLY
COPACETIC
FOR OUR
BEVY OF
BEGUILING
BABES.

HOUSEMATES
LOIS, SPARROW, AND
GINGER ARE
NAVIGATING THE
CHALLENGING INTER-
PERSONAL DYNAMICS OF
COLLECTIVE LIVING
WITH SKILL AND
MAGNANIMITY.

COULD YOU HOLD
IT DOWN IN HERE?
I'M TRYING TO
REHEARSE FOR MY
PACKING
WORKSHOP.



IN A
FINAL
MANIC BINGE,
GINGER
COMPLETES THE
DISSERTATION
SHE'S BEEN
WRITING
FOR THE PAST
TEN
YEARS.

CAN I HEAR
AN **AMEN**?



SPARROW
IS ASSID-
UOUSLY
PURSUING
HER
DIRECTOR-
SHIP
OF THE
WOMEN'S
SHELTER.

NEXT ON ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT,
HOT HOLLYWOOD HUNKS HOPPED UP
ON HEROIN, AND MICHAEL JACK-
SON'S UROLOGIST TELLS ALL!

UH...LOIS? D'YOU
REALLY HAVE TO
WATCH THAT
RIGHT NOW? I'M
TRYING TO WRITE
A GRANT PROPO-
SAL HERE.



AFTER BEING DUMPED BY HER LATEST FLING, THE LIBIDO-INHIBITED **LOIS** IN TURN DUMPS HER PROZAC.



CLARICE, TIRELESS ATTORNEY FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FUND, **TONI**, PART-TIME ACCOUNTANT, AND **RAFFI**, FULL-TIME THREE YEAR-OLD, SUCCESSFULLY PETITION THE STATE TO BECOME A LEGAL NUCLEAR FAMILY.



TONI'S PAL **CARLOS** HELPS OUT WITH CHILD-CARE IN HIS COPIOUS SPARE TIME.



AT MADWIMMIN BOOKS, **JEZANNA** INTRODUCES A BREATH OF FRESH AIR.



THE BOOK-STORE IS SAVED FROM THE BRINK OF DISSOLUTION BY A RATHER RIBALD FUND-RAISING EVENT.



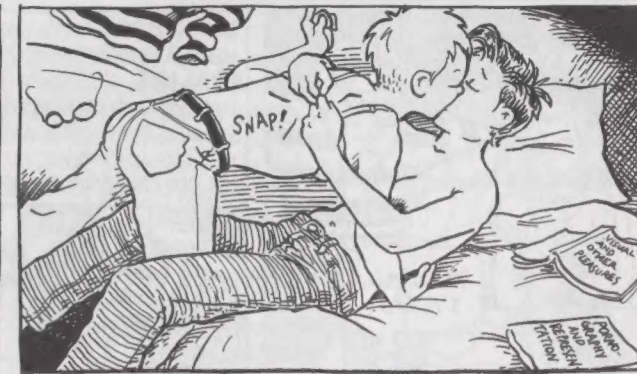
EVIL WOMEN'S STUDIES PROFESSOR **SYDNEY** APOLOGIZES TO MADWIMMIN EMPLOYEE **THEA** FOR HER EGREGIOUS BEHAVIOR YEARS AGO.



THEA'S BOOK-SLINGING CO-WORKER **MO** TAKES THIS AS LICENSE TO DATE SAID PROFESSOR...



... AND THEREBY FALLS PREY TO HER HEADY CHARMS.



AT THIS MODERATELY TITILLATING JUNCTURE, LET US RESUME OUR TAWDRY TALE.

HARD CORE

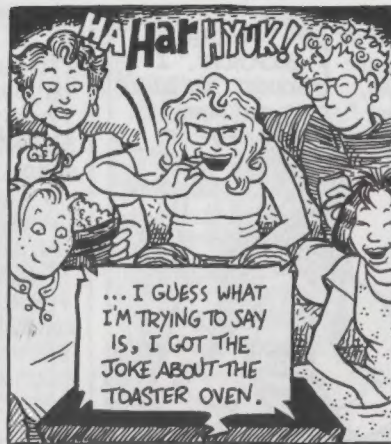
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FROM EAST GRAND FORKS TO KEY WEST, QUEER AMERICA HUDDLES 'ROUND ITS HOME ENTERTAINMENT CENTERS FOR A TELEHISTORIC MOMENT OF COLLECTIVE CATHARSIS.

...AND WHAT WAS HIS NAME?

SUSAN.

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... I GUESS WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY IS, I GOT THE JOKE ABOUT THE TOASTER OVEN.

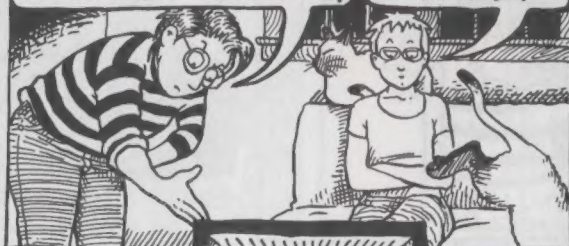


... I WANT A HOUSE WITH A PICKET FENCE, YOU KNOW, A DOG, A CAT, SUNDAY BAR-BECUES, SOMEONE TO LOVE...



YES, I'M... I'M GAY.

DON'T YOU SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE? THEY'RE TRYING TO **NEUTRALIZE** US! THEY FEED US SOME PHONY SITCOM ABOUT OUR LIVES SO WE'LL STAY HOME AND **WATCH** IT, INSTEAD OF GOING OUT AND MAKING OUR **OWN** SUBVERSIVE CULTURE!



THAT'S THE WORST PART! TRY TO CHANGE ANYTHING IN THIS COUNTRY AND YOU END UP GETTING **PACKAGED** AND **SOLD BACK** TO YOURSELF! PLUS NOW EVERY SHMOE ON THE STREET'S GONNA THINK THEY KNOW WHAT MY LIFE IS LIKE!



SYDNEY, WHY WATCH THE DISNEY VERSION WHEN YOU HAVE THE REAL DEAL RIGHT HERE?

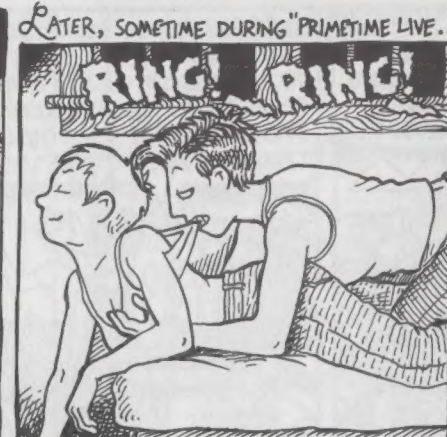


RELAX, I'M TAPING IT. WE CAN WATCH IT AFTER.

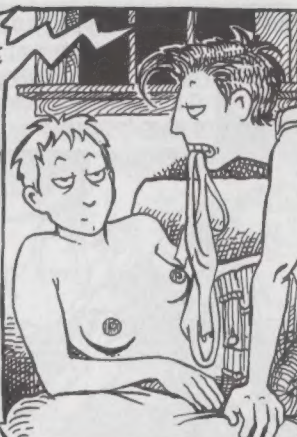
WELL, I FOR ONE THINK IT'S SUPER!



AFTER DOING SOMETHING OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS WOULD MOST DEFINITELY OBJECT TO, IF WE HAD ANY.



YOU MUST BE OUT AT ONE OF THOSE "ELLEN" PARTIES. WELL, I **LOVED** THE SHOW. SHE'S SUCH AN ATTRACTIVE GIRL! Y'KNOW YOU'D LOOK **GREAT** WITH THAT HAIRSTYLE! YOUR DAD AND I WERE JUST SAYING MAYBE ONE DAY YOU COULD **MANAGE** A BOOKSTORE LIKE ELLEN, INSTEAD OF JUST WORKING IN ONE. WOULDN'T THAT BE NICE? CALL US! BYE!



let the lover beware

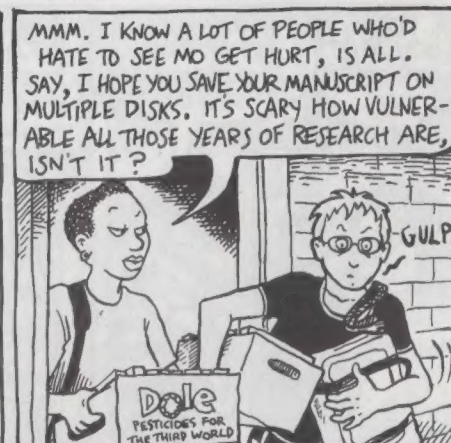
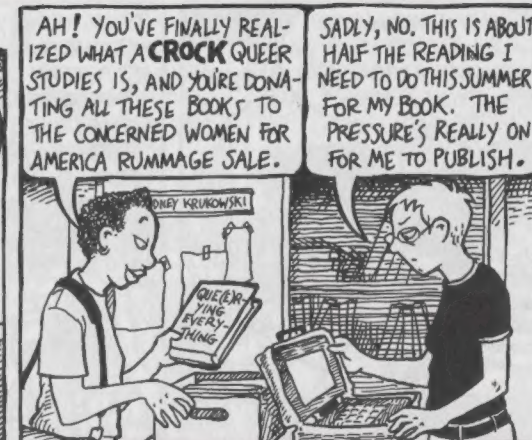
Mo's HAVING A COFFEE BREAK WITH EVERYBODY'S FAVORITE CONFIDANTE.

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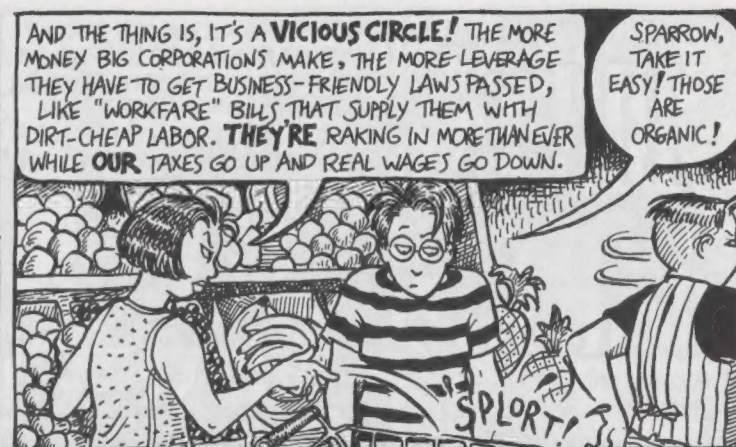


MEANWHILE, OVER AT THE UNIVERSITY...



two degrees and separation

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IT'S THE EVENT O' THE SEASON!

BLUE PARTY

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YOU'RE GOING TO GINGER'S PARTY?
... YEAH, I **KNOW** IT'S A BIG DEAL SHE
FINALLY GOT HER DOCTORATE. I MEAN,
I WAS INVITED TOO, BUT I TOLD
SPARROW WE ALREADY HAD PLANS. I'M
MAKING MY SPECIAL MUNG BEAN GUMBO!



WELL, WHY DON'T GINGER AND I
PICK YOU UP? THAT WAY WE'LL SEE
EACH OTHER **AND** GO TO THE PARTY!
KILL TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE.



SUCH A
ROMANTIC.

SHH!

MEANWHILE...

WHAT AM I SUPPOSED
TO DO WHILE YOU'RE OFF IN
BOSTON AT BUSINESS SCHOOL?
SIT HOME KNITTING YOU
POWER TIES?



WELL... I DUNNO.
MAYBE WE SHOULD
TAKE A BREAK,
SEE OTHER PEOPLE
FOR A WHILE.



WHAT?

IT'S A TWO YEAR
PROGRAM. I DON'T
EXPECT YOU TO JUST
WAIT AROUND.



HI! I PICKED
UP THE CAKE.
NEED HELP WITH
DINNER?



SOB!

SWEETIE,
I'M JUST
THINKING
OF YOU!



UH... I'LL
GO PUT
THIS ON A
PLATE.



CAN'T WE DISCUSS
THIS LIKE ADULTS?
YOU ALWAYS GET
SO EMOTIONAL!



I THINK
YOU'D BETTER
LEAVE
RIGHT
NOW!



JUNE?
WHERE ARE YOU
GOING?



BOSTON.



YOU'RE NOT STILL MAD,
ARE YOU? I'LL EAT
YOUR GUMBO LATER!



WHAT'S GOING
ON IN HERE?



UH...
THERE'S A
SMALL PROBLEM
WITH DINNER.

SNIFF!
I'M SORRY,
GINGER!



OH, SPARROW!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT
THE FOOD!



THE IMPORTANT THING
IS SHARING THIS... UH...
HAPPY MOMENT WITH
ALL OF YOU!



BAW!



MAYBE FOR APPETIZERS
WE SHOULD HAVE
SOME OF THESE NEW
ANTIDEPRESSANTS
I'M TAKING.



"CONGRATULATIONS
ON YOUR RETIRE-
MENT?" LOIS,
THIS ISN'T THE
CAKE I ORDERED!



dirty movies

ONE SUMMER'S MORN...

OH, GREAT! "WATERMELON WOMAN" IS AT THE THALIA! WANNA GO TONIGHT?

I CAN'T...I'VE GOTTA WORK ON MY BOOK. IN FACT, I WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE YOU ALL WEEKEND.



GOD, SYDNEY! WHAT AM I, A YO-YO? EVERY TIME WE GET CLOSE, YOU PUSH ME AWAY AGAIN!

I'M NOT PUSHING YOU AWAY! I JUST HAVE WORK TO DO! WHY CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND THAT?



OH, I UNDERSTAND! YOU ONLY SEE ME WHEN YOU WANNA BUMP "LIBIDINAL SURFACES" INSTEAD OF THEORIZE ABOUT THEM!

MMM...I LIKE IT WHEN YOU USE POSTMODERN JARGON! COME BACK TO BED...



DOWN AT THE BOOKSTORE...

CAN I BUM A CIGARETTE, ANJI?

SINCE WHEN DO YOU SMOKE?



SINCE I WANT AN EXCUSE TO LOITER OUT HERE INSTEAD OF WORKING.

HEY! HAVE YOU SEEN THAT MOVIE "ALL OVER ME"?



NO. I WAS GONNA GO THIS WEEKEND.

LOIS, YOU HAFTA TAKE ME! JUST BECAUSE IT HAS TWO GIRLS KISSING, THEY RATED IT 'R.' IF I GO WITH SOMEONE OLDER, I CAN PASS FOR EIGHTEEN.



SURE. HECK, NEXT TO AN OLD HAG LIKE ME >KOFF< YOU'LL LOOK MIDDLE-AGED.

D'YOU THINK? MAYBE TO BE SAFE, I'LL BORROW MY MOM'S K.D. LANG T-SHIRT.



AMONG THE RANKS OF THE UNEMPLOYED...

I'VE SENT OUT THIRTY-FIVE RESUMES AND GOTTEN ZERO CALLS. NO ONE WANTS TO HIRE AN ACCOUNTANT WHO'S BEEN OUT OF THE JOB MARKET FOR FOUR YEARS.

THESE LISTINGS ARE EITHER FOR NIGHT JANITORS, OR PEOPLE WITH "SOLID EXPERIENCE IN RS232/485." WHAT AM I GONNA DO?



YOU REALLY SHOULD TAKE A BASIC COMPUTER CLASS.

I'D RATHER TAKE IN AN AIR-CONDITIONED MATINEE. LET'S GO SEE HERCULES.



ABSOLUTELY NOT. I'M TRYING TO RESTRICT HIS DISNEY INTAKE.

YOU HAVE TO GO, QUERIDA, OR PEOPLE WILL THINK YOU'RE A SOUTHERN BAPTIST!



OKAY, OKAY! I'LL COME TO THE MOVIES WITH YOU! NOW SAY IT! PLEASE!

OH, BABY. LET ME PRIVILEGE LESBIAN POSITIONALITY BY DESTABILIZING YOUR BODILY METANARRATIVE.





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OH MY GOD!
THIS IS SO
1984!

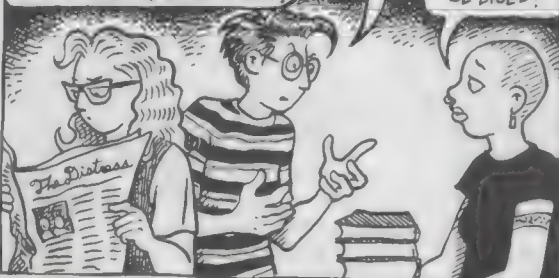


NOW CORPORATIONS ARE DETERMINING WHAT
LANGUAGE WE CAN USE! THE OXFORD
ENGLISH DICTIONARY JUST DECIDED NOT TO
INCLUDE AN ENTRY FOR THE WORD "McJOB."

HEY! BE
CAREFUL. I
HAVEN'T READ
MARKTRAIL
YET.

THEY'RE INTIMIDATED BECAUSE McDONALD'S
JUST SPENT \$15 MILLION TO WIN A LIBEL
SUIT AGAINST TWO PENNILESS BRITISH
ACTIVISTS WHO DARED TO SAY THAT A
BIG MAC ISN'T THE **HEALTHIEST** THING
IN THE WORLD YOU CAN EAT!

BUT EVERY-
ONE KNOWS
FAST FOOD
TOTALLY ROTS!
HOW CAN THAT
BE LIBEL?



TOUCHING,
ISN'T IT?
WAS I EVER
THIS INNO-
CENT?



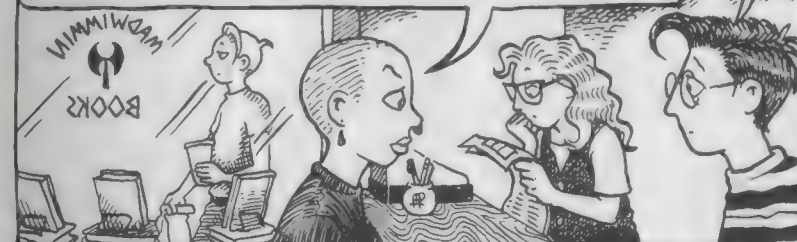
ANJALI, LET ME TELL YOU A THING
OR TWO ABOUT HOW BIG BUSI-
NESS WORKS. FIRST OF ALL, WITH
ENOUGH JACK, YOU CAN PROVE
LARD CURES **COLON** CANCER.

DUH! I THINK I UNDERSTAND
THAT GLOBAL CAPITALISM IS
COLONIZING HUMANITY AS
WELL AS THE PLANET IN AN
EVER-EXPANDING AND IN-
CREASINGLY **BRUTAL** QUEST
TO FEED A HANDFUL OF
BOATED MULTINATIONALS, MO!



BUT IF YOU'RE FEELING MENTOR-ISH, EXPLAIN **THIS** TO ME.
GIVEN THAT MEGACORPORATIONS ARE TURNING OUR COMMUNITIES
INTO A **SOULLESS EXPANSE** OF **CHAIN STORES**, AND
SIPHONING OFF LOCAL WEALTH TO DISTANT CEOs WHO EARN **140**
TIMES WHAT THEIR WORKERS DO, WHY DO AMERICANS FLOCK
TO PLACES LIKE McDONALD'S AND WAL-MART INSTEAD OF RISING
IN COLLECTIVE **REVOLT** AGAINST THE UNJUST ECONOMIC ORDER?

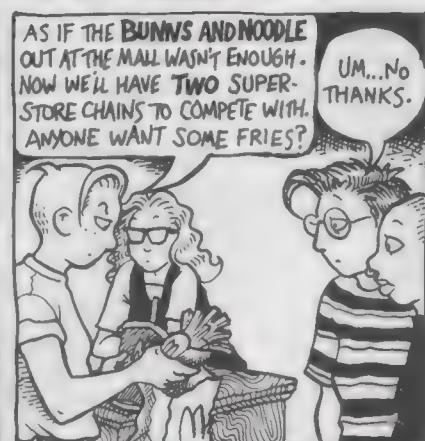
UH...



HEY.



MAN, YOU WON'T BELIEVE
WHAT I JUST HEARD. A **BOUNDERS**
BOOKS AND **MUSIC** STORE MIGHT
MOVE IN DOWN THE BLOCK.
JEZANNA WILL FLIP!



AS IF THE **BUNNS** AND **NOODLE**
OUT AT THE MALL WASN'T ENOUGH.
NOW WE'LL HAVE **TWO** SUPER-
STORE CHAINS TO COMPETE WITH.
ANYONE WANT SOME FRIES?

UM...NO
THANKS.



IT'S ALL THAT SATURATED FAT.
CLOGS THE NEURAL TRANS-
MITTERS AND IMPAIRS THE BRAIN'S
ABILITY TO MAKE CONNECTIONS.

OH.
THAT'S
WHAT I
THOUGHT.

SCHLRRP!

the mythology of everyday life

OUR HEROINE RETURNS HOME FROM HER LABORS.

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HOW NICE FOR YOU. IN CASE YOU'RE WONDERING WHAT I DID TODAY, I WON AN INJUNCTION AGAINST A NITRIC ACID PLANT, THEN I FAILED TO PREVENT 300 ACRES OF WETLANDS FROM BEING TURNED INTO A **LANDFILL**, THEN MY CASE AGAINST A PESTICIDE COMPANY GOT **DISMISSED** ON PROCEDURAL GROUNDS.

MEEMA! IN DA MOVIE, HEWKUWEES, HE, HE, HE CUT OFF DA MONSTOW'S HEAD AN' DEN IT GWEW MOW HEADS!

IT GREW MORE HEADS? HUH. THINGS HAVEN'T CHANGED MUCH IN THREE MILLENNIA.

OOPS.

SWEETIE, THAT WAS THE LAST ONE. HOW ABOUT SOME NICE, COLD APPLE JUICE?

HEY, THAT BEER LOOKS GOOD.

HERCULES. IN DIGITAL STEREO AIR CONDITIONING.

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE BEEN PARBOILED, SWEET-HEART.

UHH. OUR AIR CONDITIONER DIED, AND THE ONLY THING I HAD TIME TO EAT ALL DAY WAS A SNO-CONE.

OH, CLARICE. I HAVEN'T EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT DINNER YET! WE JUST GOT BACK FROM THE MOVIES.

HI, MEEMA.

OKAY. HERE'S A THOUGHT. MAYBE IF I GO OUT AND COME BACK IN, YOU'LL TELL ME YOU FOUND A **JOB** TODAY, THERE'LL BE SOMETHING TO **EAT**, AND **STANLEY KOWALSKI** HERE WILL BE GONE.

CLARICE, I'M SORRY YOU HAD A BAD DAY, BUT YOU DON'T NEED TO BE RUDE.

I SHOULD BE GOING ANYWAY. BLANCHE AND STELLA WILL BE WANTING THEIR DINNER.

AN' MEEMA, DERE WAS DIS GUY DEUCE.

DEUCE?

ZEUS, RAFFI.

YEAH. I WIKED HIM. HE HAD A BIG BEARD AN' HE WAS HEWKUWEES FATHOW.

HIS FATHER?

YEAH. CAN I HAVE A FATHOW?

I AM DEFINITELY LEAVING. ENJOY THIS PRECIOUS FAMILY MOMENT.

UM... WELL, YOU SEE, RAFFI... WHEN MOMMY AND I DECIDED WE WANTED YOU, WE... UH... WENT TO A PLACE CALLED THE **SPERM BANK**...

CLARICE, RELAX! NO, RAFFI, YOU CAN'T HAVE A FATHER. YOU HAVE TWO MOTHERS.

DEN CAN I HAVE A GIANT DOG WIFTHWEE HEADS WIKE IN DA MOVIE?

A DOG? OKAY!

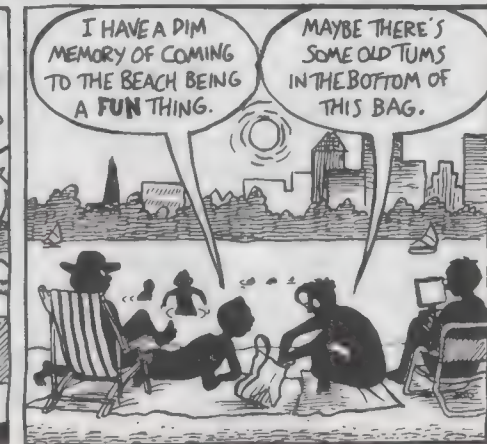
NICE WORK, COUNSELOR. ARE YOU THIS COOL-HEADED IN COURT?

R&R

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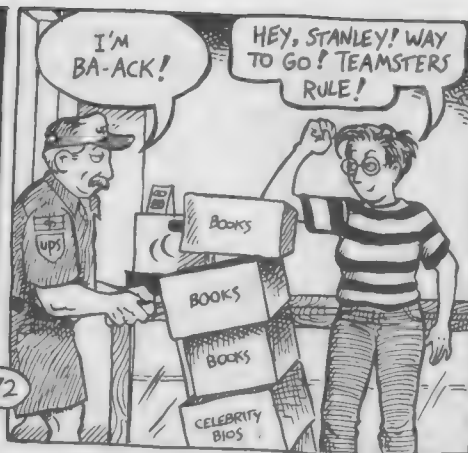
OUR PREOCCUPIED PALS HAVE PACKED UP ALL THEIR CARES AND WOES AND BROUGHT THEM TO THE BEACH.



one day

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MEANWHILE, IN THE BACK OFFICE...



MEANWHILE...



Change to Spare

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YES, I'M SURE! I NEED A CHANGE! MY LIFE IS TOTALLY STALLED.

I DUNNO IF THIS WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE. BUT I WISH YOU AND JUNE HAD BROKEN UP YEARS AGO IF THAT'S WHAT IT TOOK TO MAKE YOU CHANGE THIS WASHED-UP 'DO.

The Chop

OH, REALLY. SPEAKING OF WASHED-UP, I HEAR YOU'RE NOT HAVING MUCH LUCK SELLING YOUR SECOND BOOK.

HEY, I CAN'T HELP IT IF ALL PUBLISHERS WANT IS "BILLY GRAHAM'S FAVORITE LOW-FAT CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE SPIRIT RECIPES."



SPARROW, I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU!

IT'S COMING FROM UP-STAIRS. COULD YOU PLEASE TURN THE TV DOWN?

RING!

TWICE AS MANY WOMEN SAY O.B.'S APPLICATOR IS MORE COMFORTABLE TO INSERT THAN TAMPAX!



BAM! BAM! BAM!

LOIS! WHAT'S THAT SMELL?

SHIT!

SKREEK!

IT'S OKAY! I'VE GOT THE WINDOW OPEN!



A CIGAR? OH, THIS IS THE LAST STRAW!

HEY, NICE HAIRCUT! HOW ABOUT YOU AND I PASSING OUT ON THE VERANDA? OR WOULD YOU RATHER PASS OUT HERE?



LATER...

DIGGER, RELAX! IT'S ONLY ME.

GRRR!



...AND CYNTHIA COOPER GETS INSIDE FOR TWO!

GO, COOP!



GINGER! WHAT'S BURNING?

AAA!

...CHARLOTTE LEADS HOUSTON 54-39. YOU'RE WATCHING THE WNBA ON NBC.



WILL YOU PUT THAT OUT! I HAVE HAD IT WITH YOU AND YOUR ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT!

WHY THANK YOU! I LIKE TO THINK MY DEVELOPMENT IS ARRESTING.

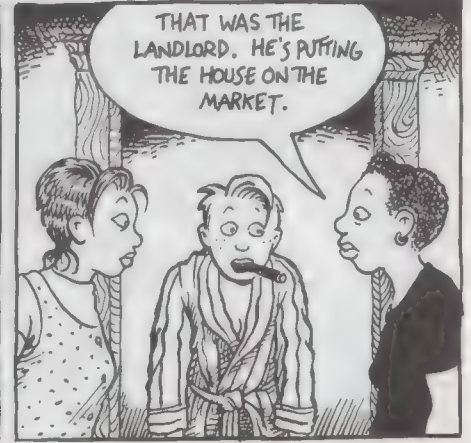
STOMP STOMP



GOD! I AM TOO OLD TO BE LIVING IN A SWINGING BACHELOR PAD!

YEAH, WELL, YOU MIGHT NOT HAVE TO MUCH LONGER.

CLUNK!



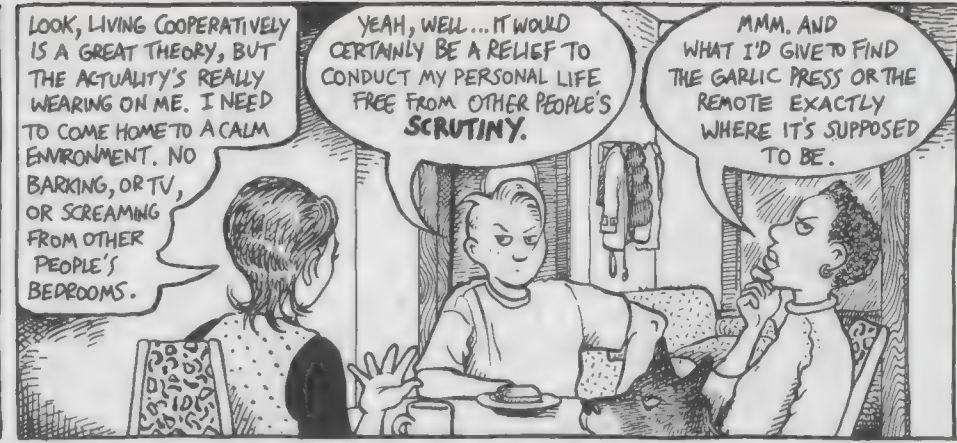
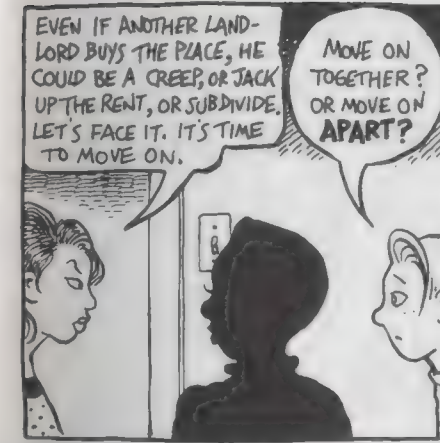
THAT WAS THE LANDLORD. HE'S PUTTING THE HOUSE ON THE MARKET.

all
for
one

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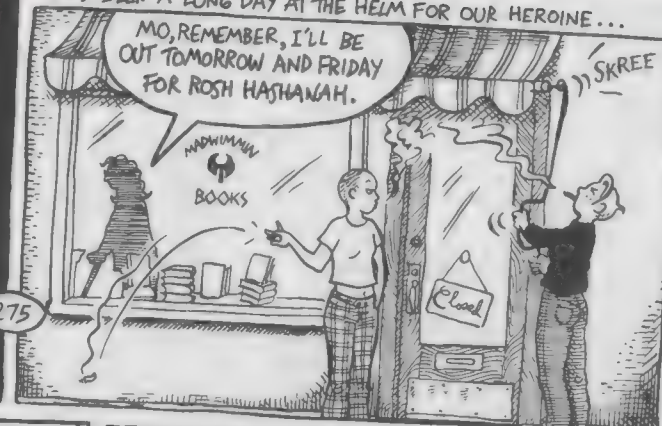
THE
FIRST
PROSPECTIVE
BUYERS
HAVE
JUST
FINISHED
TOURING
OUR HAPLESS
HOUSEMATES'
HOME.



handling it

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IT'S BEEN A LONG DAY AT THE HELM FOR OUR HEROINE...



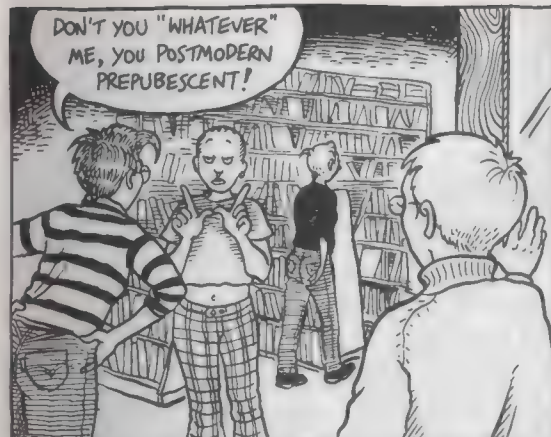
MO, REMEMBER, I'LL BE OUT TOMORROW AND FRIDAY FOR ROSH HASHANAH.

SKREE



OH, RIGHT. DAMN! I'LL HAVE TO CANCEL MY CHIROPRACTOR APPOINTMENT.

DON'T GIVE ME ANY GRIEF. YOU HAD PLENTY OF WARNING. NOT THAT YOU SHOULD NEED IT.



DON'T YOU "WHATEVER" ME, YOU POSTMODERN PREPUBESCENT!



KEEPING UP MORALE, I SEE.

SYDNEY, HI! DIDN'T YOU GET MY MESSAGE? I CAN'T AFFORD TO GO OUT TONIGHT. I CAN'T EVEN FIGURE OUT HOW EVERYBODY'S GONNA GET PAID THIS WEEK.



MY TREAT! I SENT OFF MY MANUSCRIPT TODAY. LET'S CELEBRATE.

YOU ALWAYS TREAT. IT DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT.



I KNOW, I KNOW. IT'S FINE. HAPPY NEW YEAR.

THANKS.

SHANAH TOVAH, BABE.



Y'KNOW, THERE'S NOT MUCH POINT IN GOING OUTSIDE TO SMOKE IF YOU'RE JUST GONNA STAND IN FRONT OF THE DOOR.



WHY ARE YOU SMOKING WITH HER, ANYWAY? YOU SHOULD BE SETTING AN EXAMPLE!

AND YOU! FOR ALL YOUR SOPHISTICATED POLITICAL ANALYSIS, YOU'RE PLAYING RIGHT INTO THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY'S HANDS! THE YOUNGER THEY HOOK YOU, THE BIGGER THEIR PROFITS!



WE CAN PRETEND I'M MARTHA STEWART AND YOU'RE MY POOL GIRL.



MEANWHILE...

THAT STORE OF YOURS... GONNA BE OKAY... WITHOUT YOU? DON'T WANT YOU... RUINING YOUR BUSINESS.

DON'T WORRY, MAMA. I LEFT THINGS IN VERY CAPABLE HANDS.



YOUR POOL GIRL? THAT'S SICK.

YOU DIDN'T SEEM TO THINK SO THE OTHER NIGHT.

spaced out

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SO THE POSSIBILITY OF THE CASSINI PROBE HURLING BACK INTO EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE WITH 70 POUNDS OF DEADLY PLUTONIUM ON BOARD DOESN'T GIVE YOU EVEN A SLIGHT QUALM?

NAH.

HOW DOES SOMEONE WHO PRIDES HERSELF ON HER CRITICAL THINKING SWALLOW NASA'S PRO-NUCLEAR PROPAGANDA SO BLITHELY?

I EXPECT IT'S SIMILAR TO THE WAY YOU SWALLOW THE LEFT'S ANTI-SCIENCE PROPAGANDA WITH SUCH CAREFREE -SNIFF- ABANDON.

OH, SO I SHOULD TRUST A BUNCH OF GOVERNMENT "DUCK AND COVER" FLACKS OVER THOUSANDS OF SELFLESS PEACE ACTIVISTS.

MO, I CAN'T ARGUE WITH YOUR KNEEJERK -SNIFF- OVERSIMPLIFICATIONS. DAMN!

YOUR ALLERGIES?

YEAH, AND I DON'T HAVE MY PILLS. I'M GONNA HAVE TO LEAVE BEFORE IT GETS WORSE.

HOW COME YOU WEREN'T ALLERGIC TO MY CATS WHEN WE FIRST STARTED GOING OUT?

ENDORPHINS OFTEN OVERRIDE ALLERGIC REACTIONS. I READ A PAPER ON IT ONCE. WHERE'S MY SCARF?

OVER AT CLARICE & TONI'S...

HNG!

ARR!

click

THIS PLACE IS DRIVING ME NUTS! THE BEDROOM CLOSET'S SO PACKED, ALL MY SUITS ARE CRUSHED. AND I RIPPED THIS THING TRYING TO GET THE DOOR SHUT.

STINKY!

GREAT. THAT WAS HIS FAVORITE BEANIE BABY.

WAIL!

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. I'LL LOOK AT IT.

MEANWHILE...

THE REALTOR'S BRINGING SOME PEOPLE OVER AT SEVEN. I'M GOING BACK TO SCHOOL AND GRADE PAPERS.

I SHOULD GO TO THE GYM ANYWAY.

AND I'VE GOT A... I MEAN, I'M HAVING DINNER WITH SOMEONE.

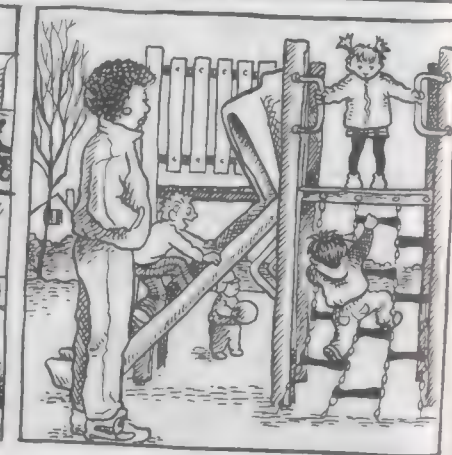
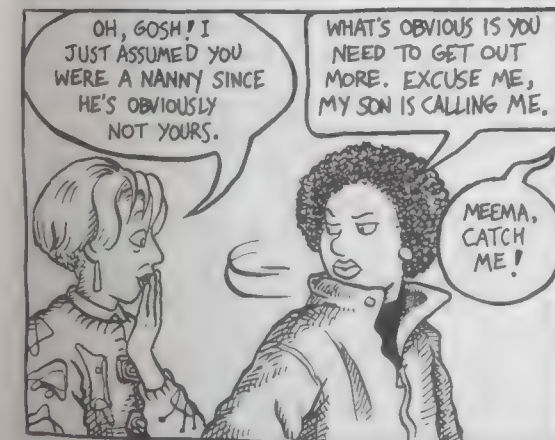
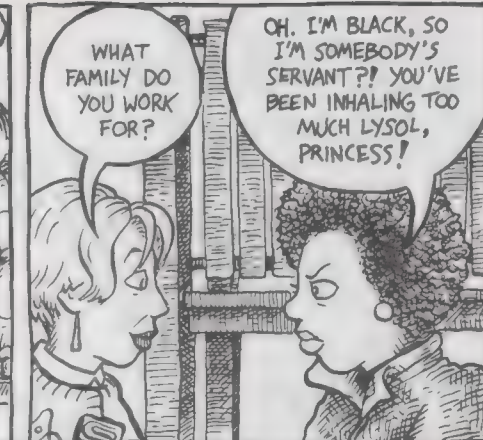
IS "SOMEONE" PICKING YOU UP, OR CAN I GIVE YOU A RIDE "SOMEWHERE?"

WHAT'S THE BIG MYSTERY? IS SHE IN A RELATIONSHIP? MARRIED? HIGH PROFILE AND IN THE CLOSET?

DOES THE YWCA STILL RENT ROOMS? MAYBE I'LL CHECK IN THERE TILL I CAN FIND MY OWN SPACE.

suburban subversion

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disclosure

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Mo's HAVING A LITTLE HOLIDAY CHEER WITH SYDNEY'S FATHER AND STEP-MOTHER.

I DON'T KNOW WHY HARVARD TURNED YOUR BOOK DOWN, SYD. I SPOKE TO MY EDITOR THERE ABOUT IT.

DAD, IT'S MORE COMPETITIVE NOW. NOT LIKE WHEN YOU WERE YOUNG AND ANY HALF-WIT COULD GET HIS DISSERTATION PUBLISHED.

SYDNEY, YOU DIDN'T FAWN OVER PAUL'S OBSCENELY EXPENSIVE NEW SWEATER.

NICE! I'VE ALWAYS WANTED A CASHMERE TURTLENECK.

I'LL GET YOU ONE TOMORROW. JENNIFER ALREADY THINKS I SPEND TOO MUCH MONEY. A LITTLE MORE WON'T HURT.

HEY, ONE OF MY CREDIT CARDS RAISED MY LIMIT ANOTHER THOU! LET'S GO CHECK OUT THE NEW SKI EQUIPMENT, TOO.

SYDNEY! YOU CAN'T JUST BUY STUFF UNTIL YOU MAX OUT YOUR CREDIT! THAT'S INSANE!

AND LET'S GO BY GIZMO WORLD. I NEED A NEW PERSONAL DIGITAL ASSISTANT.

GREAT!

YOU SHOULD BE GLAD YOU TWO CAN'T GET MARRIED. WHEN SHE CRASHES AND BURNS, YOU WON'T BE LIABLE FOR HER DEBT.

MEANWHILE, GINGER IS OFF JOBBUNTING AT THE MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION CONVENTION.

LOIS! I GOT YOUR MESSAGE! IS DIGGER OKAY?

YEAH, EVERYTHING'S UNDER CONTROL. SHE WAS LIMPING WHEN I GOT HOME, SO I TOOK HER TO THE VET. THEY SAID SHE HAS RHEUMATISM AND TO GIVE HER IBUPROFEN.

GINGER, RELAX! I CANCELLED MY PLANS TO GO TO MY FOLKS SO I CAN STAY WITH HER ALL WEEKEND.

HEY, NO PROBLEM, BELIEVE ME. I JUMPED AT THE CHANCE.

OKAY. WAIT A SEC.

SHE WANTS TO TALK TO YOU.

STOMP STOMP

GIGGLE.

GRARR

HEY, GINGER! SOUNDS LIKE SPARROW'S HOME. AND I THINK SHE MIGHT HAVE THE MYSTERY DATE IN TOW.

REALLY? WHO IS IT? WHAT'S SHE LOOK LIKE?

UH... KINDA LIKE RICHARD DREYFUSS IN "JAWS," ONLY BALDER.

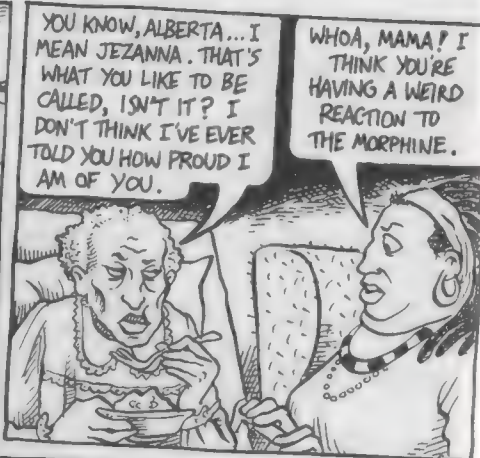
LOIS! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

AR AR ARF!

the long goodbye

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a GUY thing

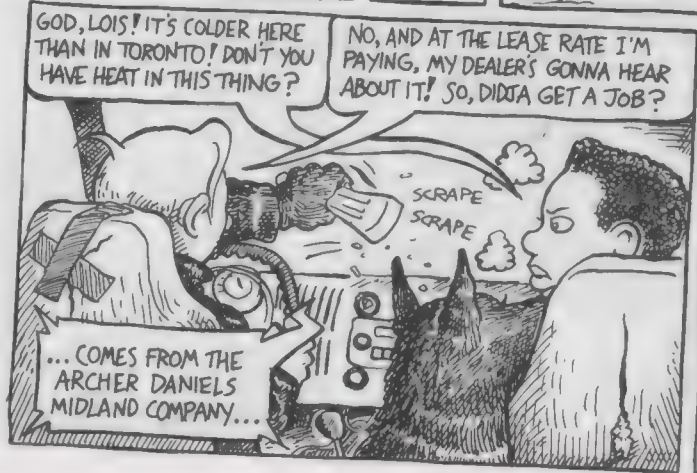
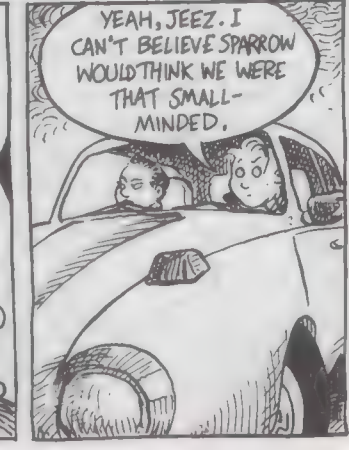
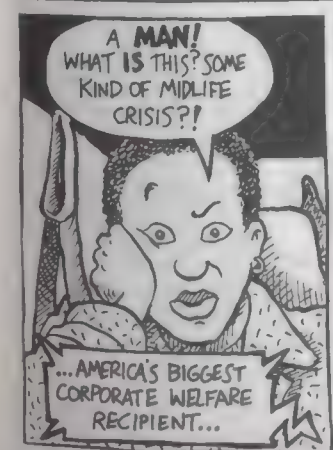
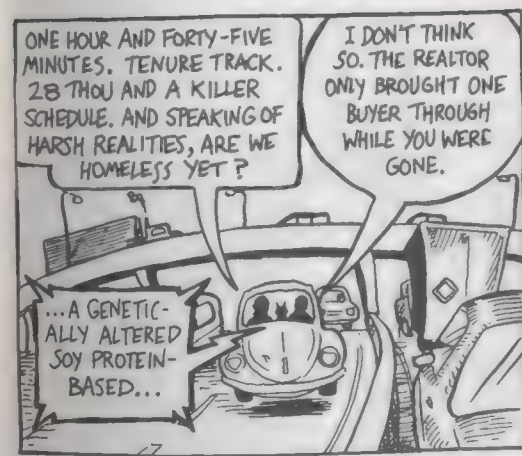
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GINGER RETURNS FROM THE MLA CONVENTION.

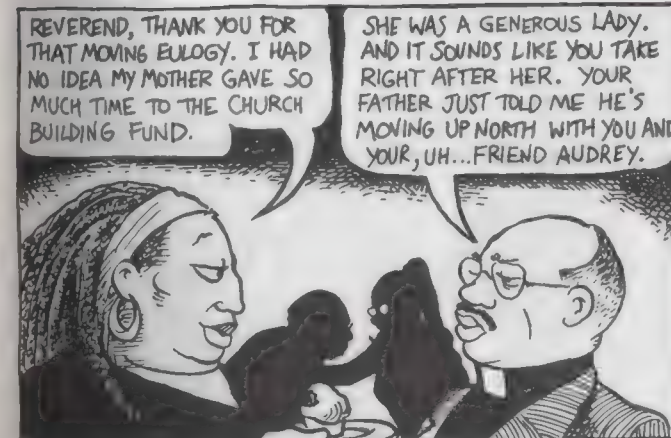


TIP O' THE NIB TO AMEY "FÜKENG RÜVEN" RADCLIFFE



life with father

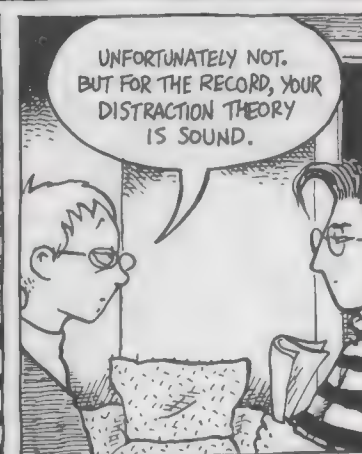
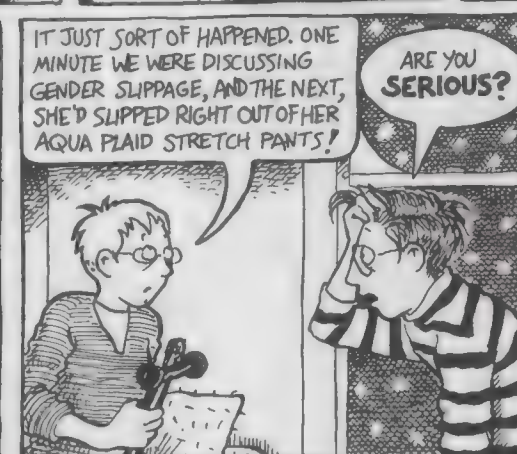
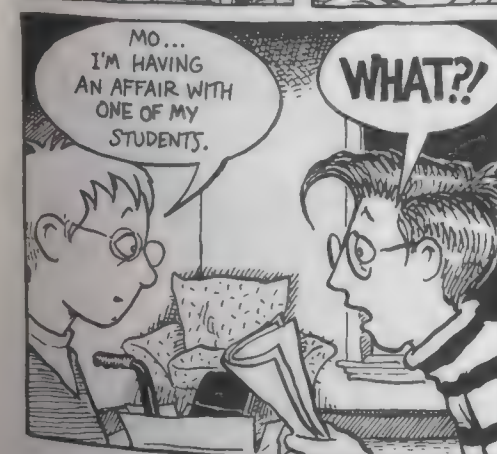
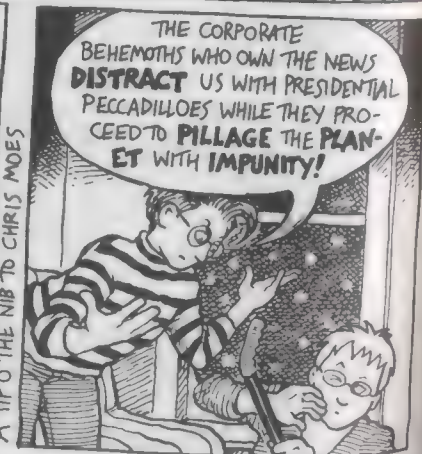
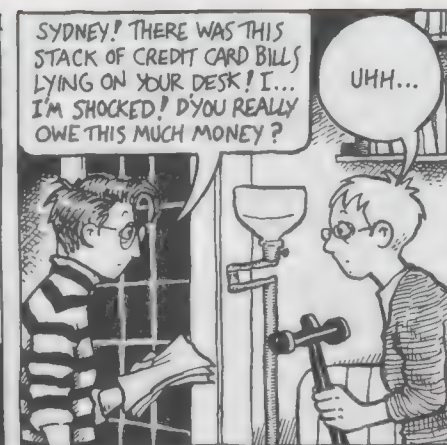
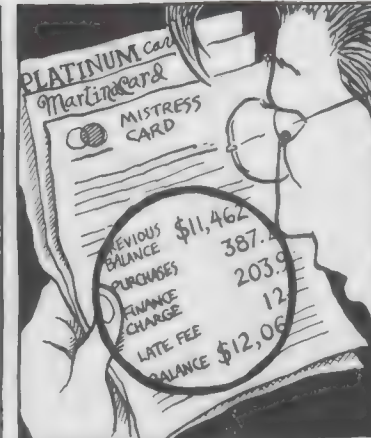
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divert & conquer

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A TIP OF THE NIB TO CHRIS MOES

the iceman cometh

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GINGER! THANK GOD YOU'RE HOME! I WAS SO WORRIED WHEN I HEARD THE WEATHER REPORT. HOW WERE THE ROADS?

FOUR HOURS TO DRIVE A HUNDRED MILES. I CAN'T UNCLENCH MY HANDS.

HOW'D IT GO AT BUFFALO LAKE STATE? ARE THEY GONNA HIRE YOU?

I HAVE A SINKING FEELING THEY MIGHT. SPARROW, YOU'RE NOT GOING OUT ARE YOU?

SHE PROBABLY HAS A DATE WITH HER GENTLEMAN CALLER.



WHAT'S IT FEEL LIKE TO BE STRAIGHT?

LOIS! I... I'M NOT STRAIGHT!

SO WHAT'RE YOU DOING WITH THIS GUY? TALK TO US! YOU'VE BEEN SNEAKING AROUND LIKE A GUILTY TEENAGER!



I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M DOING! THIS IS VERY CONFUSING, AND YOU'RE NOT MAKING IT ANY EASIER.

ARE YOU SCHTUPPING HIM?



NO.

DO YOU WANT TO?



YES... I THINK. I DON'T KNOW! I REALLY LIKE HIM, BUT... HE'S A MAN!

WELL, THAT'S NOT NECESSARILY A PERMANENT CONDITION.

SHUT UP, LOIS. HOW DOES HE FEEL? WHAT DOES HE WANT?



HE'S A LITTLE WARY, TOO. HE SEEMS TO HAVE A PATTERN OF GETTING INVOLVED WITH WOMEN WHO TURN OUT TO BE LESBIANS.

WHAT IS IT WITH THOSE GUYS?

STOMP STOMP



HERE HE IS. SEE YOU LATER.

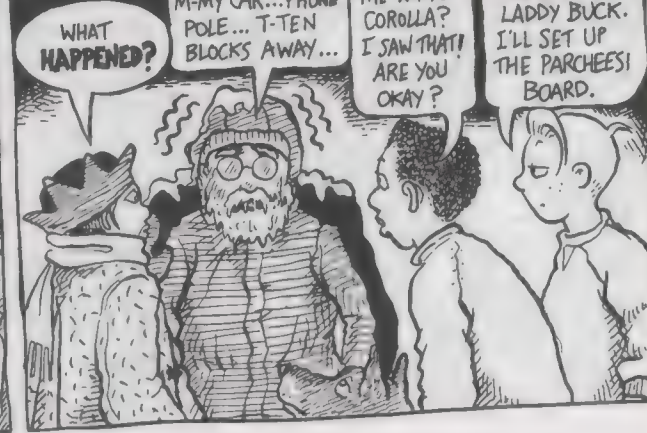


SPARROW, INVITE HIM IN FOR A SECOND! WHAT'RE YOU AFRAID OF?

YEAH. I PROMISE I WON'T CARVE UP A CUCUMBER WITH A CLEAVER WHILE SHOUTING "DEATH TO THE PATRIARCHY."

LOOK, I'M JUST NOT READY TO HANG OUT PLAYING PARCHEESI WITH ALL OF YOU YET.

HI, STUART! STUART?



WHAT HAPPENED?

M-MY CAR... PHONE POLE... T-TEN BLOCKS AWAY...

THE WHITE COROLLA? I SAW THAT! ARE YOU OKAY?

COME ON IN, LADDY BUCK. I'LL SET UP THE PARCHEESI BOARD.

collateral DAMAGE

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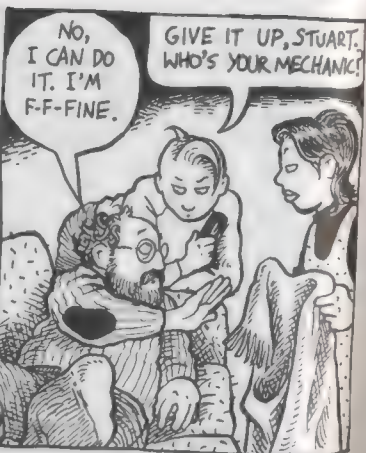
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SPARROW'S SWAIN APPEARS TO BE IN A MILD STATE OF SHOCK.



HERE. LIE DOWN AND ELEVATE YOUR FEET. I'LL GET YOU SOME HOT TEA WITH HONEY.

LOIS, COULD YOU FIND HIS TRIPLE A CARD IN HERE AND GET HIS CAR TOWED?



NO, I CAN DO IT. I'M F-F-FINE.

GIVE IT UP, STUART. WHO'S YOUR MECHANIC?

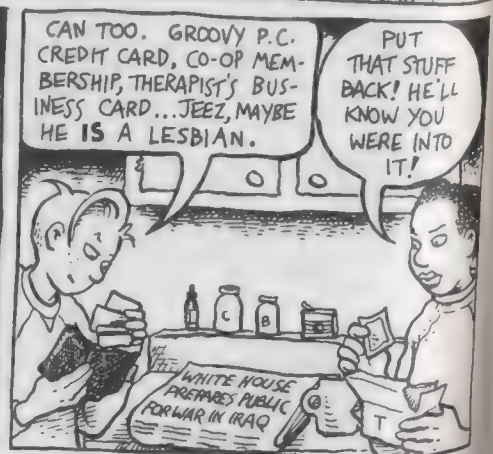


SHORTLY, IN THE KITCHEN...
RIGHT. WRAPPED AROUND A PHONE POLE AT 19TH AND MARTIN. WHY, THANK YOU, RITA. YOU HAVE A LOVELY EVENING TOO!



THIRTY-FOUR BUCKS CASH, AND THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-ONE IN THE BANK. HUH. IF THAT'S STRAIGHT WHITE MALE PRIVILEGE, WE'RE NOT MISSING MUCH.

LOIS, YOU CAN'T JUST RIFLE THROUGH HIS WALLET!



CAN TOO. GROOVY P.C. CREDIT CARD, CO-OP MEMBERSHIP, THERAPIST'S BUSINESS CARD... JEEZ, MAYBE HE IS A LESBIAN.

PUT THAT STUFF BACK! HE'LL KNOW YOU WERE INTO IT!



WHAT DO YOU CARE? YOU'RE BEING SUSPICIOUSLY NICE TO THIS GUY. "OH, STUART! LET ME GET YOU SOME TEA!"

HEY, I'M JUST BEING POLITE. I'D DO THE SAME IF SPARROW WAS SEEING A WOMAN.



BUT SHE'S NOT, BLANCHE. SHE'S NOT. COME ON. I KNOW IT BUGS YOU. QUIT BEING SO TOLERANT.

WELL... I GUESS I AM DISAPPOINTED IN HER. IT'S JUST SO... CONVENTIONAL.



DON'TOYA FEEL LEFT IN THE LURCH? SHE'LL BE SHOWERED WITH APPROVAL AND APPLIANCES WHILE WE STAY HERE FENDING OFF PROMISEKEEPERS AND "PRO-FAMILY" PREVERTS.



YEAH. HER LIFE WILL BE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT WITH A MAN. A WHITE MAN AT THAT! WHAT IS SHE THINKING?

I DUNNO, BUT I FEEL HAD.



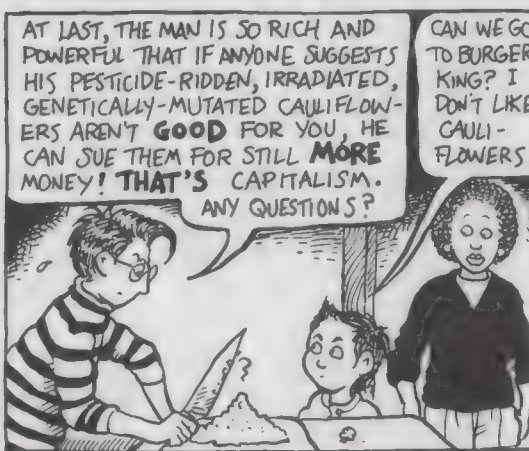
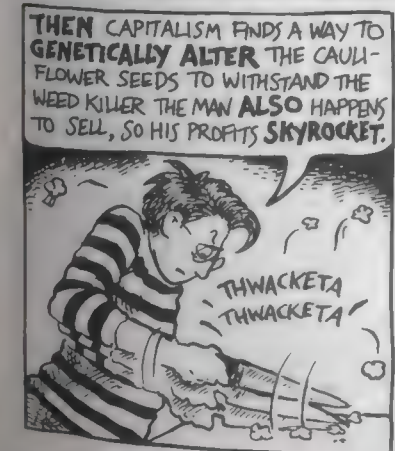
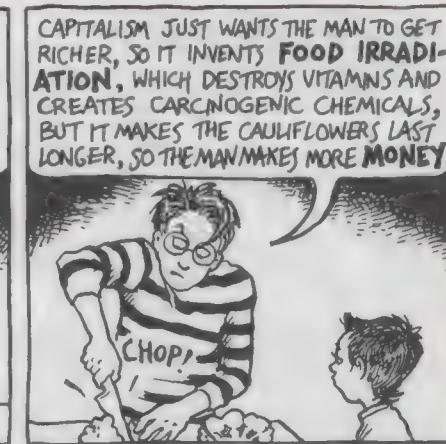
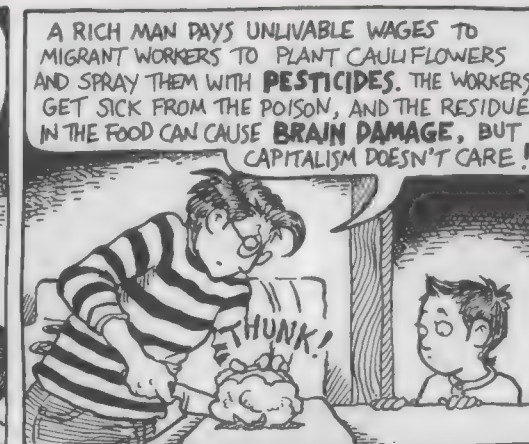
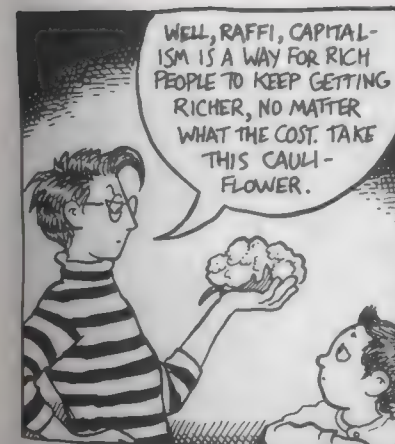
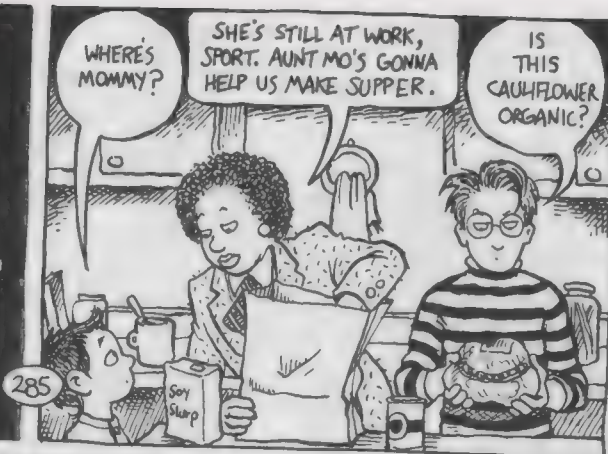
YEAH, BETRAYED. SPARROW SEEING A GUY IS LIKE CLINTON TURNING OUT TO BE JUST ANOTHER HYPOCRITICAL, FAMILY VALUES SPEWING, WELFARE-SLASHING, SABER RATTLING THUG!



REALLY.

STU! DUDE, I GOT YOUR TEA!

object lesson



Buying the Farm

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I'M ALL PACKED. I LEFT STUART'S NUMBER BY THE PHONE IN CASE ANYONE NEEDS ME.

SPARROW, PLEASE DON'T DO THIS!

YOU CAN'T BREAK UP THE HOUSEHOLD. WE'RE...WE'RE FAMILY.

THAT'S THE PROBLEM. LOOK, IT'S ONLY FOR A LITTLE WHILE. I NEED SOME SPACE.

I WAS JUST VENTING WHEN I SAID ALL THAT STUFF ABOUT YOU AND STUART. I'M OVER IT!

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SHE'S REALLY COME AROUND, SPARROW. I'VE TALKED TO HER.

SHUT UP, LOIS. I WAS FINE ABOUT IT TILL YOU STARTED WITH THE HETEROSEXUAL PANIC.

YOU TWO ARE GONNA HAVE TO SORT IT OUT ON YOUR OWN. I NEED TO BE IN A MORE SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT.

SPARROW, WE'RE YOUR FRIENDS! I DON'T THINK IT'S SUCH A GOOD IDEA THAT YOU GO TO STUART'S PLACE. YOU HARDLY KNOW HIM. AND I'D SAY THE SAME THING IF HE WERE A WOMAN!

EXCEPT SHE'D SAY "YOU HARDLY KNOW HER."

DING DONG

THAT'S HER. I MEAN HIM.

Wurf!

DIGGER, CHILL! YOU'RE GETTING TOO OLD FOR THIS!

LORNA! WHAT DO YOU WANT?

I DIDN'T THINK YOU LADIES WOULD BE HERE. DIDN'T MY OFFICE CALL YOU?

NO, THEY DIDN'T.

WELL, YOU WON'T MIND IF I BRING A CLIENT THROUGH. HE'S LOOKING FOR A RENTAL PROPERTY. IF IT WORKS OUT, YOU COULD GET TO STAY HERE.

I COULDA TOLD YOU A DOG LIVED HERE. THE YARD'S A MESS. PEOPLE WHO RENT TO DOG OWNERS ARE NUTS.

LISTEN, YOU CAN'T JUST COME IN HERE WITH-OUT ANY WARNING!

WOOF Yipe! ARE

GRRR!

COME ON IN, MR. WIENER!

AWAY! AWAY!

I KNOW, HON. I'LL SPEAK TO MY SECRETARY ABOUT IT. LET'S START WITH THE BASEMENT, MR W.

SEE THERE? LOOKIT WHAT THAT MUTT'S DONE TO THE WOODWORK.

OKAY, OUT! I MEAN IT, OR I SET THE HOUND LOOSE!

WELL! YOUR LANDLORD'LL HEAR ABOUT THIS!

JEEZIZ! BUNCHA NUT JOBS.

SLAM!

WOW! WAY TA GO, GINGER!

YEAH. THIS'LL BE EXCITING. I'VE NEVER BEEN EVICTED BEFORE.

NO ONE'S EVICTING ANYONE, LADIES. I'M GONNA BUY THIS DAMN HOUSE!

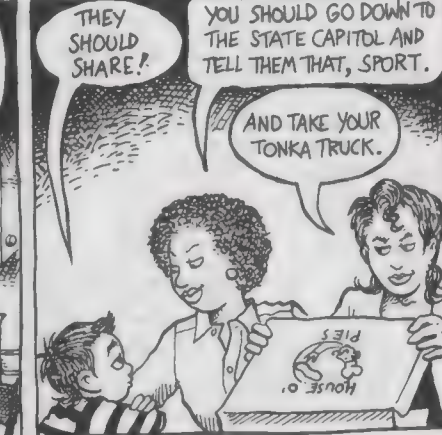
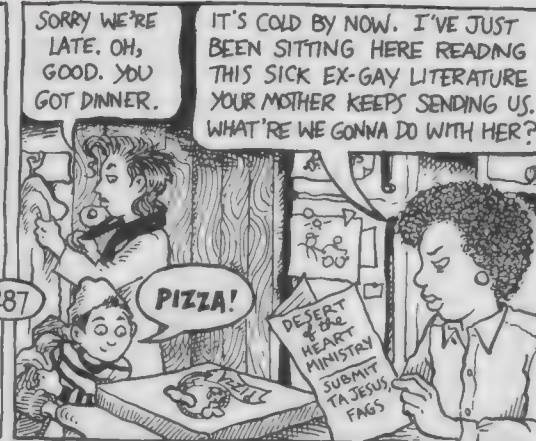
ARP?

POSSESSED GLEAM

WUF!

everything I
need to know I
learned from my
four-year-old

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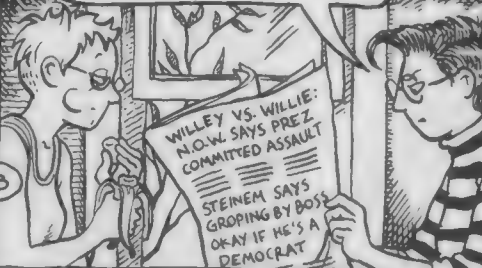


WHERE IS THE SLUSH of YESTERYEAR?

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ONE SPRINGY SATURDAY MORNING...

FEMINISTS CAN'T WIN! IF WE CRITICIZE CLINTON'S BEHAVIOR, WE'RE PRUDES. AND IF WE SUGGEST HIS SEX LIFE IS HIS OWN BUSINESS, WE'RE HYPOCRITES. IT'S THE SAME OLD VIRGIN/WHORE TRAP.



ACTUALLY, I WAS JUST THINKING THAT ALL THIS OBSESSION WITH OUR FEARLESS LEADER'S WENCHING HAS HAD THE INTERESTING ANCILLARY FUNCTION OF EXPANDING THE DISCURSIVE DEMAR-CATIONS OF WOMEN'S SEXUAL SUBJECTIVITY.



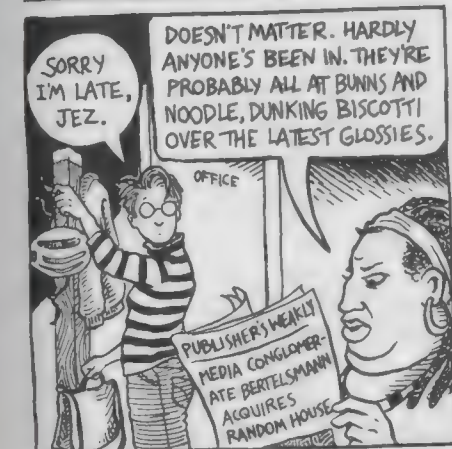
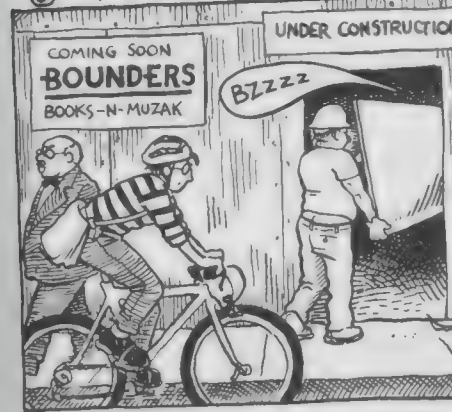
THE MORE OPEN DISCUSSION THERE IS ABOUT SEX, THE MORE WE MOVE BEYOND THE FALSE POLARITY OF WOMEN AS EITHER SEXUAL PREY, OR FRAIL VIRGINS IN NEED OF PROTECTION.



SOMEHOW, I THINK THAT POINT WILL ELUDE YOUR AVERAGE JOE MOLESTER. IF THIS IS PROGRESS, TAKE ME BACK TO THE FIFTIES. HEY! THAT'S THE LAST BANANA!



FORTY-SEVEN MINUTES LATER...



deferred Interest

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...AND WITH AN ADJUSTABLE RATE MORTGAGE, YOU WANT TO BE CAREFUL OF NEGATIVE AMORTIZATION, OR DEFERRED INTEREST, BECAUSE AT THE END OF THE YEAR, YOU COULD BE FURTHER IN DEBT THAN WHEN YOU STARTED.

GOD, MY HEAD'S SWIMMING. I'M SO GLAD WE'RE BUYING HOUSES AT THE SAME TIME. I DON'T KNOW IF I COULD FIGURE ALL THIS OUT ON MY OWN.

YOU'LL GET THE HANG OF IT. IT'S ACTUALLY REALLY INTERESTING. SO FOR A 30-YEAR FIXED-RATE LOAN, YOU NEED TO PAY 20 PERCENT DOWN, OR YOU HAVE TO BUY MORTGAGE INSURANCE, WHICH...

I THINK IT'S GREAT YOU'RE COMMITTED TO STAYING IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, GINGER. I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE, BUT...

BUT WE DON'T WANT RAFFI GROWING UP NEXT DOOR TO A CRACK HOUSE.

OKAY. THE BEST DEAL IS A 15-YEAR LOAN. YOU END UP PAYING WAY LESS INTEREST, BUT OF COURSE THE MONTHLY PAYMENTS ARE HIGHER.

I DON'T THINK I COULD AFFORD THAT. BUFFALO LAKE IS ONLY GIVING ME A PITTANCE.

HOW'D YOU DECIDE TO TAKE THE JOB? DIDN'T YOU SAY TEACHING AT A MOSTLY WHITE, SMALL-TOWN STATE COLLEGE SOUNDED LIKE THE NINTH CIRCLE OF HELL?

WELL, HELL STARTED LOOKING PRETTY GOOD. IT'S NOT EXACTLY A BUYER'S MARKET OUT THERE. 463 PEOPLE APPLIED FOR THIS JOB!

LOOK WHAT I GOT, GINGER!

WHOA, RAFFI. THAT'S VERY UH... LETHAL LOOKING.

SO MUCH FOR 'NO MORE WAR TOYS.' SYDNEY GOT HIM THAT. SHE AND MO TOOK HIM TO TOYS R US LAST NIGHT WHILE I WAS AT A FREEDOM TO MARRY MEETING.

HEY, DO YOU HAVE ANY INTEREST IN VOLUNTEERING? IT'S SUCH IMPORTANT WORK!

UM... ACTUALLY, MARRIAGE ISN'T REAL HIGH ON MY AGENDA RIGHT NOW.

TONI, NOT EVERYONE WANTS TO FIGHT FOR THE DUBIOUS RIGHT OF HAVING THEIR DOMESTIC AFFAIRS LEGITIMIZED BY THE PATRIARCHY.

LISTEN, CLARICE, IT'S A MUCH MORE RADICAL ACT FOR TWO WOMEN TO CHALLENGE THE STATE BY GETTING MARRIED THAN TO SIT AROUND MUTTERING ABOUT THE PATRIARCHY.

THWACK!

RAFFI!

LATER THAT EVENING...

I LOVE THAT WE'RE FRIENDS WITH GINGER. IT MAKES ME FEEL SO SOPHISTICATED, LIKE WE'RE IN A NOEL COWARD PLAY. WHEN WAS IT YOU TWO HAD THAT AFFAIR? TEN YEARS AGO?

CLARICE?

LOVE and WORK part I

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BUTCH IN THE
STREETS, FEMME
IN THE SHEETS?
HOW **TOO** TRITE.

SIT BACK & HANG
ON AS OUR SPECIAL
2-PART SERIES
EXPLORES SOME
MORE PIQUANT
DISPARITIES
BETWEEN WORK-
PLACE AND BED-
ROOM DEMEANOR.

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AT WORK, CLARICE HAS LASERLIKE FOCUS,

YOUR HONOR, MY ESTEEMED COLLEAGUE IS
OVERLOOKING SECTION 304 (a) AND (f),
42 U.S.C. SEC. 7604, WHICH SETS AN
EMISSION LIMIT OF 5mg/m³ OVER ANY 30
DAY PERIOD, IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN.



...AND TONI EXUDES MATURITY.

BECAUSE
I'M THE
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR,
THAT'S WHY!

JOAN, LET'S DISCUSS
THIS AFTER LUNCH.
YOU KNOW YOU GET
IRRITABLE WHEN
YOU'RE HUNGRY.



BUT IN THE BOUDOIR...



AT THE BOOKSTORE, JEZANNA
IS A WOMAN OF FEW WORDS,

DIDJA SEE BOUNDERS BOOKS
AND MUSIC IS HAVING THEIR
GRAND OPENING NEXT MONTH?



... BUT IN AN INTIMATE SETTING,
SHE'S A BIT MORE VOLUBLE.

OH, WHERE'D YOU LEARN
TO DO THAT? YES! DON'T
STOP! @*#! ME,
YOU *\$@!



SINGER HAS AN EYE TO THE FUTURE AT WORK,

SO I HEAR
YOU FINALLY
GOT A REAL
JOB.

DR. REYNOLDS, I MAY HAVE
MADE A FRACTION OF YOUR
SALARY HERE, BUT I TAUGHT
TWICE YOUR COURSE LOAD.
YOU CAN KISS MY ADJUNCT
ASS GOODBYE.

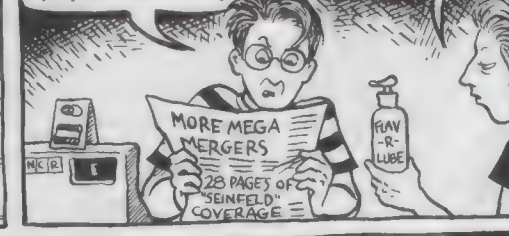


... BUT IN BED, SHE'S LIVING IN THE PAST.



ON THE JOB, MO STANDS BY HER PRINCIPLES...

ARE WE JUST GONNA SIT AROUND
WITH OUR THUMBS UP OUR BUTTS TILL
ONE SUPREME C.E.O. ACCUMULATES
ALL THE WEALTH ON THE PLANET?
MARX WAS RIGHT! CAPITALISM TENDS
INEVITABLY TOWARD **MONOPOLY**, AND
RICH PEOPLE SUCK!



... AND SYDNEY'S OUT OF CONTROL.

NOT **ONE** OF YOU OVERPRIVILEGED, BEER-
PICKLED **FRAT FOLLOWERS** READ THE
CHAPTER? WE'LL WASTE YOUR **OWN** LIVES
IF YOU MUST, BUT **DON'T WASTE MINE!**



BUT IN THE HEAT OF PASSION, MATTERS ARE DIFFERENT.



TO BE CONTINUED...

LOVE and WORK part II

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TO LOVE AND TO WORK. THE TWIN CONDITIONS OF A MEANINGFUL LIFE. BUT IS OUR PERFORMANCE IN ONE ARENA AN INDEX OF OUR PERFORMANCE IN THE OTHER?

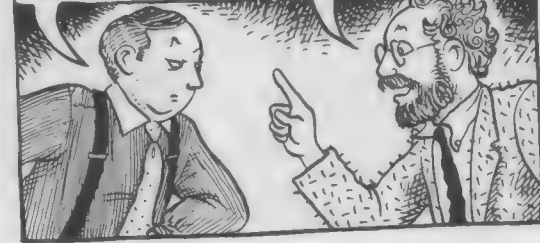
JOIN US AS WE SEEK THE ANSWER IN THIS FINAL INSTALLMENT OF OUR PENETRATING INVESTIGATIVE SERIES.

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AND STUART'S FUNDRAISING ZEAL IS UNFLAGGING.

FOOD FOR OLD PEOPLE? WE HERE AT THE GOLIATH HEALTH PLAN HAVE NEVER FUNDED ANYTHING LIKE THAT IN THE PAST.

DID YOU KNOW EVERY DOLLAR SPENT ON ELDER NUTRITION SAVES \$3.25 IN HOSPITAL COSTS? CONSIDER YOUR BOTTOM LINE, MR. FLACK!



SPARROW'S A MODEL OF DECISIVENESS DOWN AT THE SHELTER...



TIPS OF THE NIB TO PATTI, MCMAJANY & NAT GRANT

BUT IN THE RACK, SHE CAN'T DECIDE,



... AND HE FINALLY FLAGS.



THEA'S EASYGOING ON THE JOB...



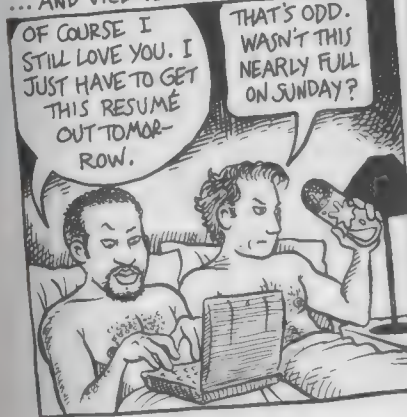
BUT A BIT MORE PARTICULAR IN BED...



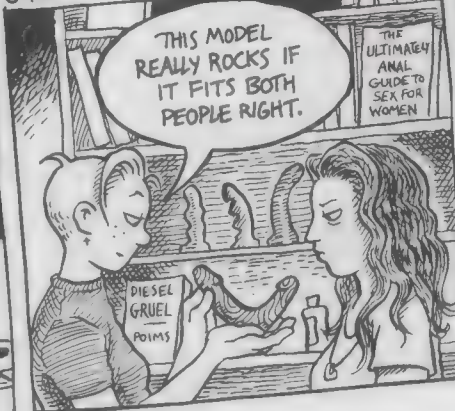
DISORIENTED BY HIS PROLONGED UNEMPLOYMENT, CARLOS IS HAVING SEX WHEN HE SHOULD BE WORKING...



... AND VICE VERSA.

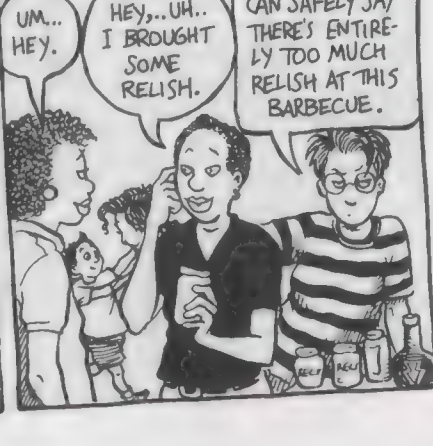
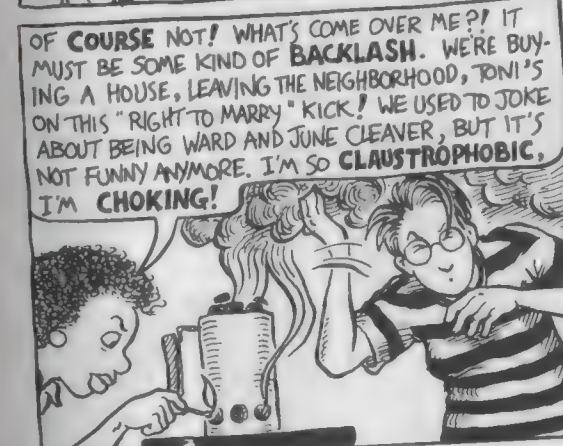
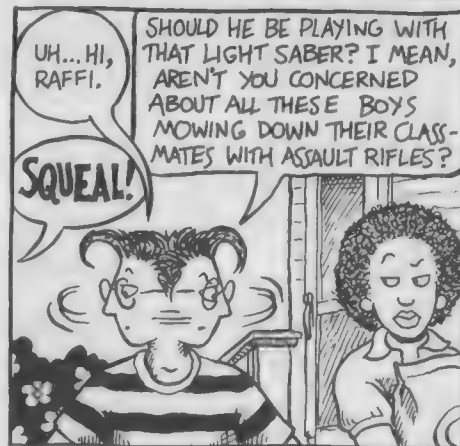


AND LOIS BRINGS TO BOTH WORK AND PLAY... A CONSISTENT, SERVICE-ORIENTED APPROACH.



an embarrassment of condiments

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home economics

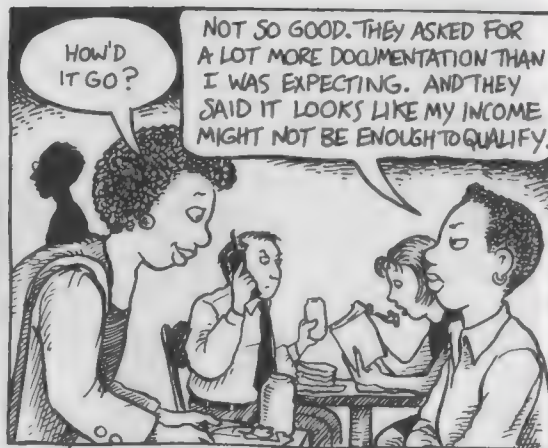
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IN A BRISK DOWNTOWN EATERY...



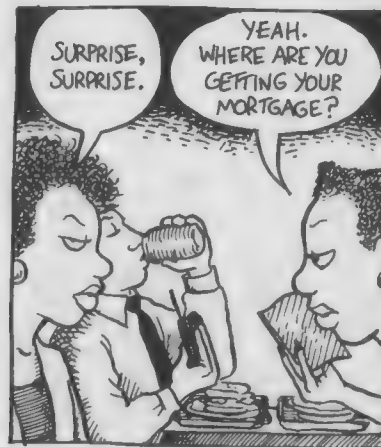
GINGER!
WHAT ARE YOU
DOING HERE?

HEY! JOIN ME! I WAS
JUST OVER AT FIRST
NATIONAL APPLYING
FOR A MORTGAGE.



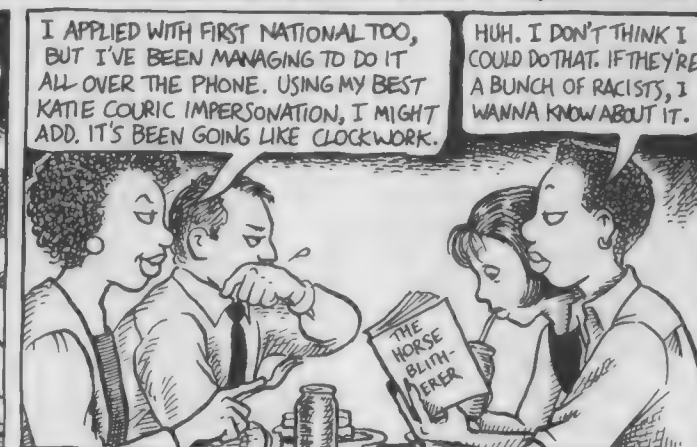
HOW'D
IT GO?

NOT SO GOOD. THEY ASKED FOR
A LOT MORE DOCUMENTATION THAN
I WAS EXPECTING. AND THEY
SAID IT LOOKS LIKE MY INCOME
MIGHT NOT BE ENOUGH TO QUALIFY.



SURPRISE,
SURPRISE.

YEAH.
WHERE ARE YOU
GETTING YOUR
MORTGAGE?



I APPLIED WITH FIRST NATIONAL TOO,
BUT I'VE BEEN MANAGING TO DO IT
ALL OVER THE PHONE. USING MY BEST
KATIE COURIC IMPERSONATION, I MIGHT
ADD, IT'S BEEN GOING LIKE CLOCKWORK.

HUH. I DON'T THINK I
COULD DO THAT. IF THEY'RE
A BUNCH OF RACISTS, I
WANNA KNOW ABOUT IT.



YEAH, I CAN SEE THAT.
YOU HAVE NO PRETENSE
ABOUT YOU. IT'S VERY,
UH... ATTRACTIVE.



?

THAT EVENING...

...SO THEN I ALMOST
SAID SOMETHING ABOUT
HER EYES, BUT THAT'S
WHEN CARLOS CAME
OVER, THANK GOD!

WOW. YOU'RE REALLY
'ROUND THE BEND, BABE.
TOO BAD SPARROW'S
STILL SHACKING UP
WITH STUART. SHE'D
KNOCK SOME SENSE
INTO YOU.

GOD, I WISH
SHE'D COME HOME.
I DON'T CARE IF SHE
BRINGS A WHOLE HIVE
OF BOYFRIENDS
WITH HER.

YEAH. IT MIGHT BE
NICE HAVING A GUY
AROUND THE HOUSE.
MAYBE HE COULD SCORE
ME SOME VIAGRA.

MEANWHILE...

YEAH, I KNOW. CLARICE
CALLED EARLIER AND
MENTIONED RUNNING INTO
GINGER AT LUNCH.

SHE DID, HUH?
AND DID SHE ALSO
MENTION THE
SCORCHING GAZE
THEY WERE EX-
CHANGING?



WHAT ARE
YOU SAYING,
CARLOS?

I'M SAYING I MAY BE USE-
LESS AT FINDING MYSELF A
JOB, BUT I AM NEVER
WRONG ABOUT AFFAIRS OF
THE HEART. YOU KEEP
AN EYE ON THAT GIRL.

OH, EVERYTHING
IS SEXUAL TO
YOU. YOU'VE
BEEN WATCHING
TOO MUCH
PORN.

MAYBE IF YOU
WATCHED MORE.
QUERIDA, YOU'D
LEARN HOW TO
KEEP HER AT
HOME.

BALM BLAST

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THIS IS NICE. WE DON'T SPEND ENOUGH TIME TOGETHER. UM... SO, ARE YOU GONNA DRAW UP THAT SPENDING PLAN TODAY? YOU KNOW, TO GET YOUR DEBT UNDER CONTROL?

I CAN'T THINK ABOUT IT RIGHT NOW. THE ANTIHISTAMINES ARE STARTING TO KICK IN.

HEY! I JUST HEARD A NEW CAT ALLERGY SOLUTION! APPLY **TIGER BALM** AROUND YOUR EYES! I HAVE AN OLD TIN SOMEWHERE IF YOU...

I DON'T THINK SO. I RATHER LIKE BEING ABLE TO SEE.

GOD! HAVE YOU READ ABOUT THIS "MILLENIUM MARCH" BROUHAHA? THE HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN AND THE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH GOT TOGETHER AND UNILATERALLY DECIDED TO THROW A NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON IN 2000.

A TIDY, CLOSED-PROCESS, TOP-DOWN EXECUTIVE DECISION. NO PUBLIC MEETING, NO DISCUSSION WITH OTHER GAY AND LESBIAN ORGANIZATIONS, NO COORDINATION WITH OTHER PROGRESSIVE GROUPS.

THE THEME IS "FAITH AND FAMILY." GAG ME WITH A RAINBOW FLAG! OR A **CRUCIFIX**! THAT'S PROBABLY THE LOGO, A RAINBOW CRUCIFIX! I BET THEY'RE PRINTING IT ON SOUVENIR DIAPER BAGS AS WE SPEAK!

WELL, IF THE MESSAGE THAT WE'RE ALL CHURCHGOING MALL PATRONS WINS US MORE SUPPORT, MAYBE IT'S A GOOD STRATEGY FOR THE MOVEMENT.

WHAT MOVEMENT?! THIS ISN'T A MOVEMENT ANY MORE, IT'S A **@#i*! CLOSELY-HELD CORPORATION**, RUN BY A BUNCH OF WHITE, POWER-HUNGRY **MARKETING STRATEGISTS** WHO'RE PACKAGING OUR LIVES INTO A COMMODITY THEY CAN SELL TO PAY THEIR SALARIES!

COME ON, MO. TIMES HAVE CHANGED. ONE SOUNDBITE ON CNN'S WORTH A HUNDRED SWEATY, WEEKEND-LONG, CONSENSUS-BUILDING MASS MEETINGS.

WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON, ANYWAY?

NOBODY'S. I'M JUST BEING INTELLECTUALLY RIGOROUS.

UM... SYDNEY? I HAD AN IDEA FOR HOW YOU COULD START WHITTLING DOWN YOUR CREDIT CARD BILL.

DOES IT INVOLVE PERFORMING LEWD ACTS?

MOVE IN WITH ME. WE'D BOTH SAVE OVER A COUPLE HUNDRED BUCKS A MONTH. NOT TO MENTION THE COMMUTING TIME.

YOU MEAN **LIVE** TOGETHER?

WELL, THERE WOULD ALSO BE LEWD ACTS INVOLVED.

HUH. WHY DON'T YOU GO GET THAT **TIGER BALM**? I HAVE A FEW OTHER IDEAS WHERE WE CAN APPLY IT.

it's a lifestyle choice

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SPARROW IS STILL SOJOURNING AT STUART'S...

GOD! THAT NEW NEIGHBOR'S DRIVING ME **INSANE!** HE'S PLAYED THIS MÖTLEY CRÜE ALBUM SIX TIMES SINCE I GOT HOME! AND IS THAT CIGAR SMOKE?!

POOR BABY. SEE YOU LATER. I'M HAVING DINNER WITH LOIS AND GINGER.

Girls, Girls, Girls!

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SHORTLY...

THANKS FOR COMING, SPARROW. I'VE MISSED YOU SO MUCH.



EXCELLENT! ACTUALLY, THAT'S WHAT WE WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.

NOW WHAT? HAVE YOU INSTITUTED VISITING HOURS FOR MALE GUESTS?

HEY, STU CAN MOVE IN AS FAR AS WE'RE CONCERNED. WE JUST WANT YOU TO CO-SIGN THE MORTGAGE AND SHELL OUT FIVE THOU TO HELP BUY THIS PLACE.

WHAT?

TURNS OUT GINGER CAN'T AFFORD THE HOUSE ON HER OWN.



AND MY CREDIT ISN'T SO GOOD SINCE I DE-FAULTED ON MY STUDENT LOAN.

COME ON! IT'S A GOOD INVESTMENT! AND NOT JUST FINANCIALLY!

IT'S AN INVESTMENT IN **FRIENDSHIP!** A COMMITMENT TO SHARING RESOURCES! A TRIUMPHANT BLOW TO THE ALIENATING CORPORATE FORCES THAT ARE STEADILY ERODING HUMAN BONDS!

OKAY. WHAT THE HELL. I'VE GOT SOME MONEY SAVED UP.

REALLY?

REALLY. I'VE BEEN GIVING A LOT OF THOUGHT LATELY TO HOW I WANT TO LIVE. IT'S BEEN NICE STAYING AT STUART'S AND HAVING SOME PRIVACY. BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT I WANT PERMANENTLY, THAT KIND OF ISOLATED, COUPLE-FOCUSED EXISTENCE, ALL CUT OFF FROM THE WORLD.

MEANWHILE, IN A DIFFERENT ZIP CODE...

...AND WITH THE ELECTRIC GARAGE DOOR OPENER, YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET OUT OF YOUR CAR TO GO INSIDE!

UH... I THINK WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING A LITTLE LESS... UH...

HERMETICALLY SEALED.

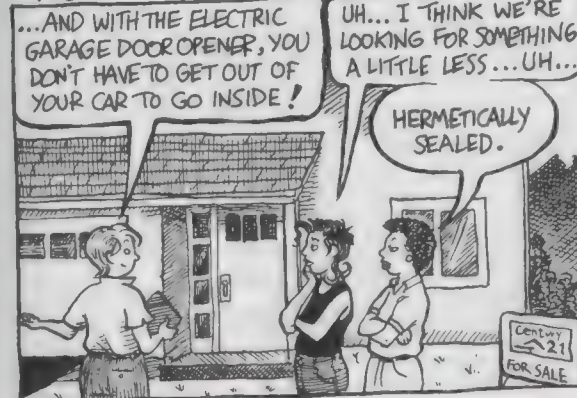
LATER THAT EVENING...

HI. LISTEN, I'M GONNA STAY HERE TONIGHT... I KNOW. ME TOO... WHAT?... WELL, I GUESS SO. BUT I DON'T THINK IT'S VERY HEALTHY IF YOU CAN'T BE AWAY FROM ME FOR EVEN ONE NIGHT.

UH... I DO MISS YOU, BUT THAT'S NOT WHY I WANT TO COME OVER.

Girls, Girls, Girls!

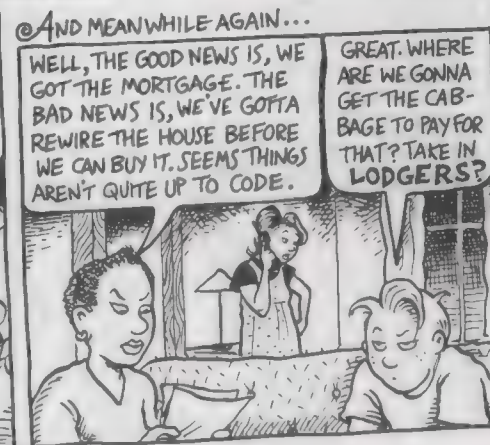
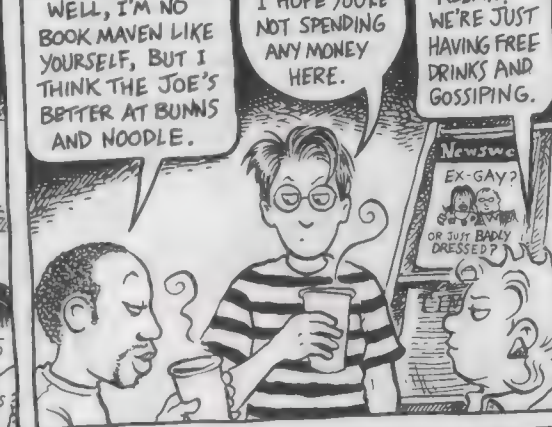
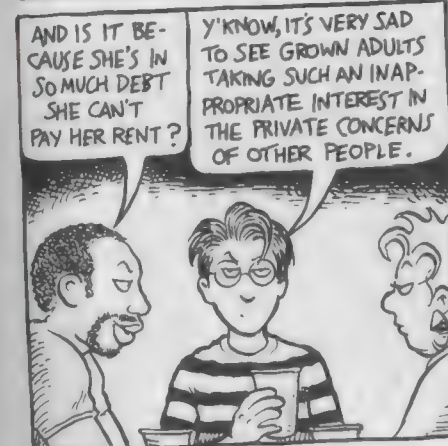
MACANUDO EXHAUST



living arrangements

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STRAY VOLTAGE

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IN A MOMENT...

LOOK, I'M NOT ASKING STUART TO MOVE IN. I'M NOT READY FOR THAT KIND OF COMMITMENT. I DON'T CARE HOW BADLY WE NEED THE MONEY.

SPARROW, THIS IS NO TIME FOR INTIMACY ISSUES. JUST THINK OF IT AS HAVING A TEMPORARY ROOMMATE TILL WE PAY OFF THE REPAIRS.

DON'T LECTURE ME ABOUT INTIMACY ISSUES. YOU'RE THE ONE OBSESSED WITH A MARRIED WOMAN. AT LEAST STUART IS AVAILABLE!

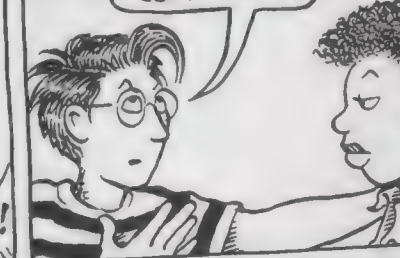
WHY DON'T YOU ASK CLARICE TO MOVE IN, GINGER. YOU'RE GENERATING ENOUGH ELECTRICITY WITH YOUR CRUSH, WE WON'T NEED TO REWIRE.

MEANWHILE...

THANKS FOR THE BOXES, MO. TONI'LL CREAM. SHE'S SO EXCITED ABOUT THE MOVE, SHE'S DEVELOPING A CARDBOARD FETISH.



CLARICE, YOU'VE GOTTA RECONCILE YOUR FEELINGS ABOUT LEAVING THE NEIGHBORHOOD. IT'S NOT GINGER YOU'RE ATTRACTED TO, IT'S WHAT SHE REPRESENTS. THE CO-OP, THE PARK, THE BLOCK FESTIVAL, THE COMMUNITY!



OH. SO IT'S REALLY THE COMMUNITY'S INNER THIGHS I WANT TO DRIZZLE WITH MAPLE CRÈME ANGLAISE, WHICH I THEN SLOWLY LAP UP WHILE STRADDLING THE TANTALIZING TONGUE OF THE CO-OP.

UH... WELL, SORT OF...



MEANWHILE, IN ST. LOUIS, JEZANNA AND AUDREY ARE PACKING UP JEZ'S FATHER TO COME BACK AND LIVE WITH THEM.

IT'S BEEN LONELY WITHOUT YOUR MAMA. BUT I'M GONNA MISS THIS HOUSE.

YOU CAN STILL CHANGE YOUR MIND. WE HAVEN'T SOLD IT YET, AND I CAN ALWAYS RETURN THE U-HAUL.



UH... LOTTA MEMORIES HERE, HUH, DAD?

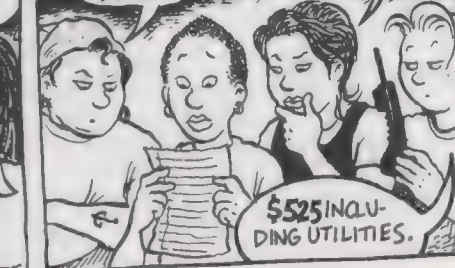
REMEMBER THIS BURN MARK ON THE BASEBOARD, FROM THE TIME YOU STUCK THAT PIECE OF ERECTOR SET IN THE OUTLET? YOU WERE ALWAYS POKING INTO SOMETHING.

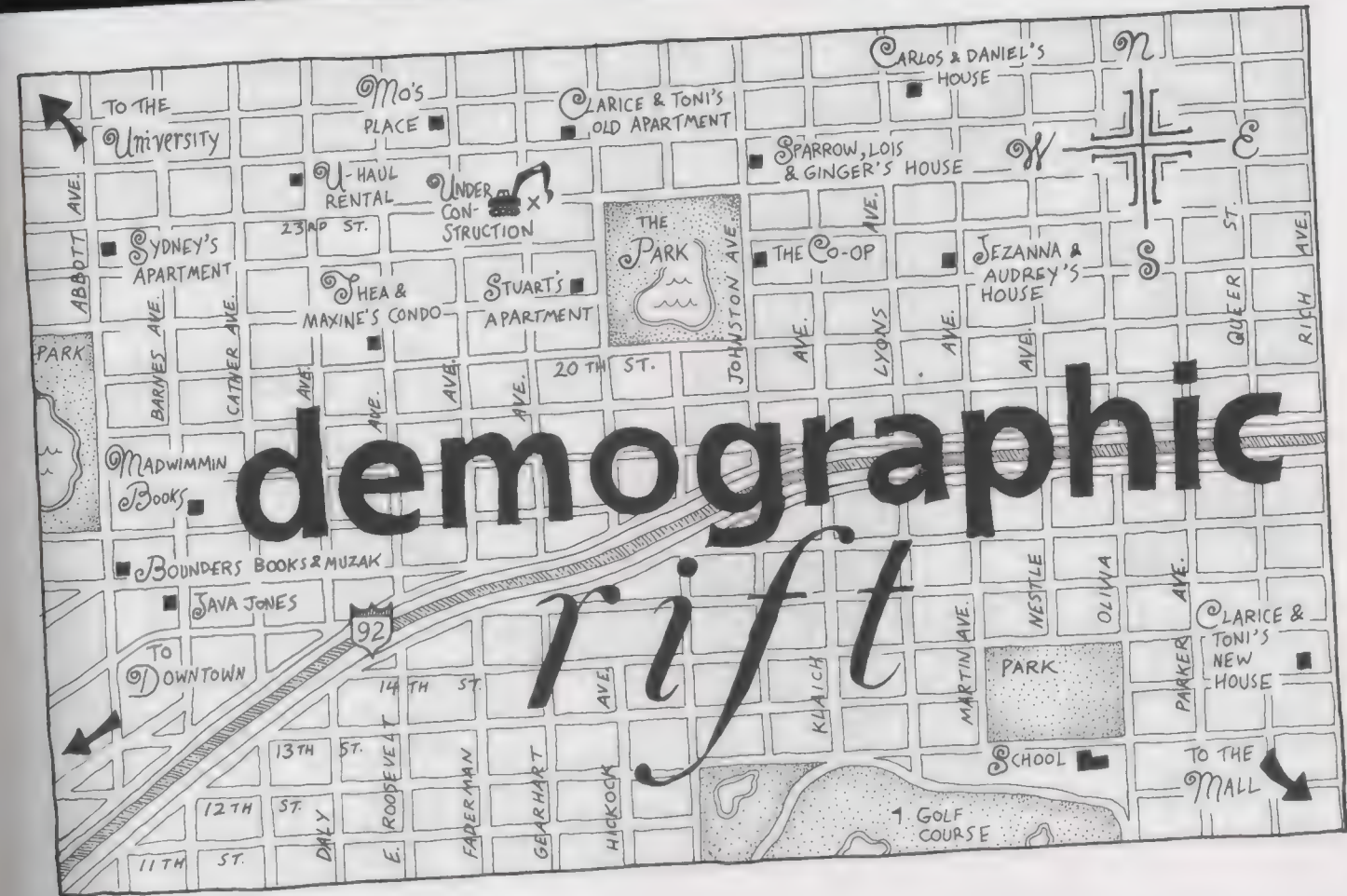


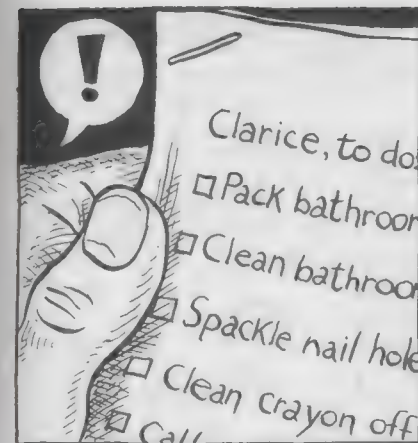
BACK AT THE RANCH...

OF COURSE, THAT DOESN'T INCLUDE REPAIRING THE WALLS AFTER I'M DONE.

Y'KNOW, MAYBE MY RELUCTANCE TO COMMIT IS A TAD UNHEALTHY.









OVER AT SYDNEY'S DIGS...



MEANWHILE, AT LOIS, GINGER AND SPARROW'S ...





GINGER! THE ELECTRICIAN'S HERE. SHE'S GONNATURN THE POWER OFF.

YO! CATH! BRING IN THE SAWZALL, WOULDJA?



I COULD GO FOR A LITTLE BUTCH-ON-BUTCH ACTION WITH A STRAPPING LASS LIKE THAT. QUITE A TOOLBELT.

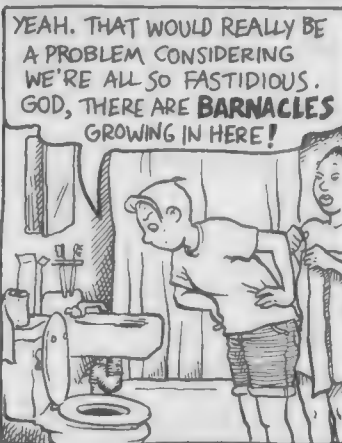


HOW NICE FOR YOU.

I CLEARED A SPOT IN THE BASEMENT FOR STUART'S STUFF. IN CASE IT DOESN'T ALL FIT UP HERE.



I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE GONNA HAVE A FOURTH PERSON LIVING IN THIS PLACE. LET ALONE A MAN. I JUST HOPE HE'S NOT A COMPLETE SLOB.



YEAH. THAT WOULD REALLY BE A PROBLEM CONSIDERING WE'RE ALL SO FASTIDIOUS. GOD, THERE ARE BARNACLES GROWING IN HERE!



AND AT STUART'S APARTMENT...

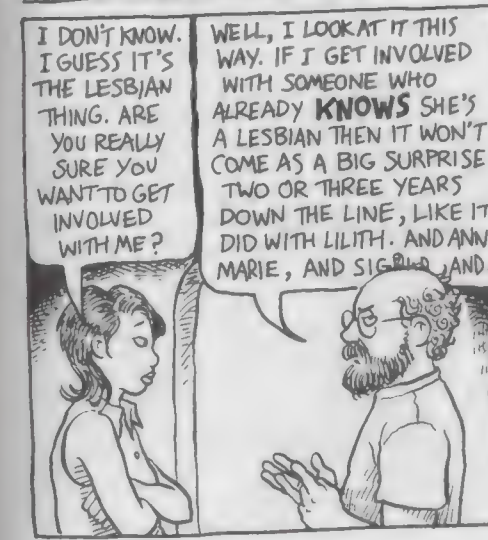
UM... COULDN'T YOU FIND ANY BOXES?

I FIGURED WE COULD JUST USE THESE SHOPPING BAGS.



SO, WE'RE REALLY DOING IT, HUH?

MOVING IN TOGETHER? UM... YEAH. WHY? ARE YOU HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS?



I DON'T KNOW. I GUESS IT'S THE LESBIAN THING. ARE YOU REALLY SURE YOU WANT TO GET INVOLVED WITH ME?

WELL, I LOOK AT IT THIS WAY. IF I GET INVOLVED WITH SOMEONE WHO ALREADY KNOWS SHE'S A LESBIAN THEN IT WON'T COME AS A BIG SURPRISE TWO OR THREE YEARS DOWN THE LINE, LIKE IT DID WITH LILITH. AND ANN MARIE, AND SIGRID, AND...

MEANWHILE, 300 MILES AWAY...



I'LL HAVE SOME WRECKED HEN FRUIT, SWEEP THE KITCHEN, AND A SHINGLE, HOLD THE COW.



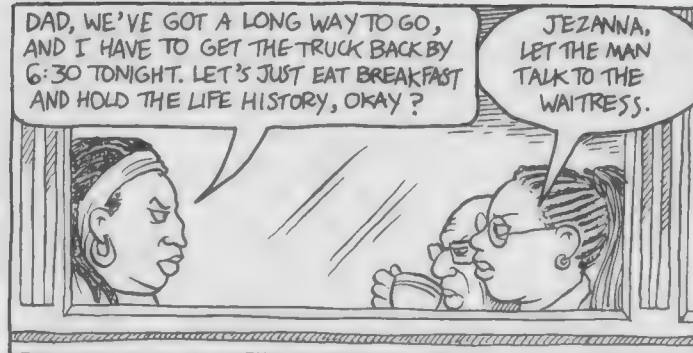
HUH?

HUH?! YOU WOULDN'T HAVE LASTED LONG AT MY DINER, YOUNG LADY. RAN MY OWN PLACE FOR 40 YEARS, AND I NEVER...



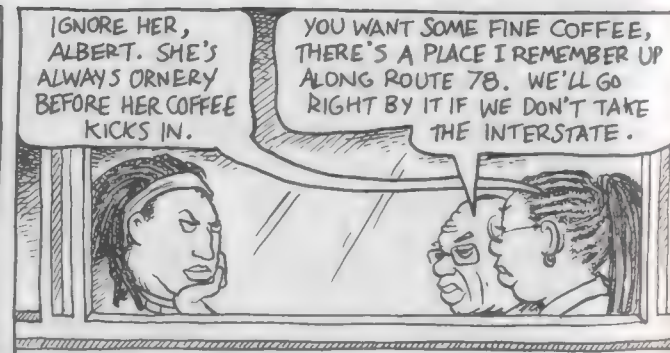
JUST BRING HIM SOME SCRAMBLED EGGS, A PLATE OF HASH, AND TOAST, NO BUTTER.

WHAT-EVER.



DAD, WE'VE GOT A LONG WAY TO GO, AND I HAVE TO GET THE TRUCK BACK BY 6:30 TONIGHT. LET'S JUST EAT BREAKFAST AND HOLD THE LIFE HISTORY, OKAY?

JEZANNA, LET THE MAN TALK TO THE WAITRESS.



IGNORE HER, ALBERT. SHE'S ALWAYS ORNERY BEFORE HER COFFEE KICKS IN.

YOU WANT SOME FINE COFFEE, THERE'S A PLACE I REMEMBER UP ALONG ROUTE 78. WE'LL GO RIGHT BY IT IF WE DON'T TAKE THE INTERSTATE.

MEANWHILE...



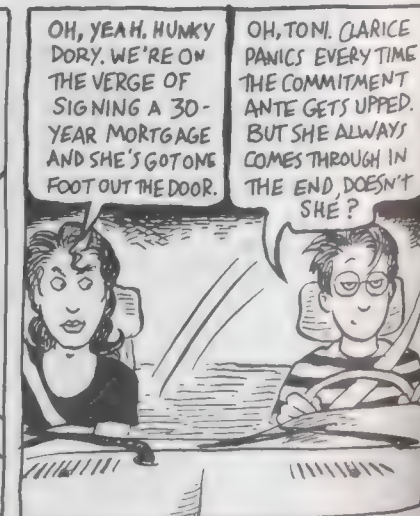
HEY! GREEN MEANS GO, YOU PRO-LIFE PIN-HEAD!

UH...TONI? YOU SEEM A LITTLE ON EDGE.



MO, I'M BUYING A HOUSE TODAY! ON THOSE STRESS CHARTS, THAT'S LIKE, SECOND ONLY TO LOSING YOUR SPOUSE OR SOMETHING.

IS, UH... EVERYTHING OKAY WITH YOU AND CLARICE?



OH, YEAH, HUNKY DORY. WE'RE ON THE VERGE OF SIGNING A 30-YEAR MORTGAGE AND SHE'S GOT ONE FOOT OUT THE DOOR.

OH, TONI. CLARICE PANICS EVERY TIME THE COMMITMENT ANTE GETS UPPE. BUT SHE ALWAYS COMES THROUGH IN THE END, DOESN'T SHE?



WELL, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I GUESS SHE'S ALWAYS HAD ONE FOOT OUT THE DOOR. BUT SHE IS STILL HERE. MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE MORE FAITH IN HER. LIGHTEN UP A LITTLE, CALM DOWN. EVERYTHING'LL WORK OUT, RIGHT?

RIGHT. BELIEVE ME. THIS THING WITH GINGER WILL BLOW OVER.



WHAT THING WITH GINGER?!

SHIT! TONI, NO! THERE'S NOTHING GOING ON! I DIDN'T MEAN TO...



OH, RELAX. IT'S NOT LIKE I DIDN'T KNOW.

OH! SO YOU'VE TALKED ABOUT IT, THEN?

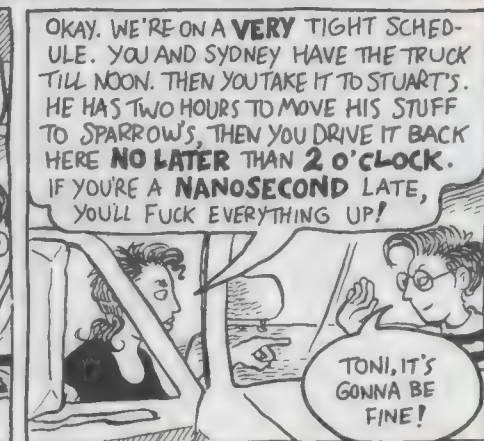


NO! I DON'T WANT TO MAKE A BIGGER DEAL OUT OF IT THAN IT ALREADY IS. BESIDES, I DON'T HAVE TIME TO PROCESS. THIS MOVE REQUIRES MY COMPLETE FOCUS!



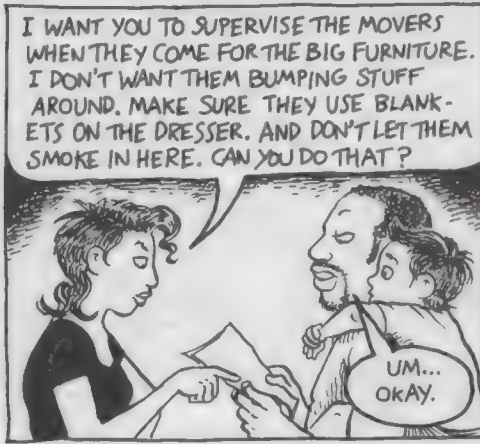
¡MIERDA! WE'RE THREE MINUTES LATE!

UH... SORRY. WELL, HERE WE ARE.



OKAY. WE'RE ON A VERY TIGHT SCHEDULE. YOU AND SYDNEY HAVE THE TRUCK TILL NOON. THEN YOU TAKE IT TO STUART'S. HE HAS TWO HOURS TO MOVE HIS STUFF TO SPARROW'S, THEN YOU DRIVE IT BACK HERE NO LATER THAN 2 O'CLOCK. IF YOU'RE A NANOSECOND LATE, YOU'LL FUCK EVERYTHING UP!

TONI, IT'S GONNA BE FINE!



MEANWHILE, THE DEAL IS CLOSED...

I HOPE YOU ENJOY THE NEIGHBORHOOD! WE LOVED IT, BUT THEN I GUESS WE WEREN'T EXACTLY A NON-TRADITIONAL FAMILY! HA HA!

COME ON, DENISE.

THANKS, ELAINE. IT WAS GREAT WORKING WITH YOU.

CONGRATS! CALL ME WHEN YOU'RE READY TO SELL!

YAY! WE'RE FORTY MINUTES BEHIND SCHEDULE! THE MOVERS WILL BE WAITING FOR US AT THE NEW HOUSE! I'M GONNA CALL CARLOS QUICK TO CHECK IN.

I'LL GET THE CAR AND MEET YOU OUT FRONT.



WHEN DID YOU TELL THEM TO SHUT OFF PHONE SERVICE TO THE APARTMENT?

UH...THE TWENTY-EIGHTH. I MEAN, TODAY.

JUST TELL ME, CLARICE. IS IT INTENTIONAL? BECAUSE I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU COULD DO SUCH AN EXCELLENT JOB OF SABOTAGING THIS MOVE BY ACCIDENT! I CAN'T TRUST YOU AT ALL ANY MORE!

TONI, I'M ONLY HUMAN!

DRIVE FASTER. WE'RE NOT PAYING THOSE GUYS TO SIT AROUND SMOKING TIPARILLOS.



DID YOU HAVE TROUBLE FINDING THE PLACE, OR WHAT?...UM, COULD YOU NOT SMOKE IN HERE?

WHAT GOES, MAN?



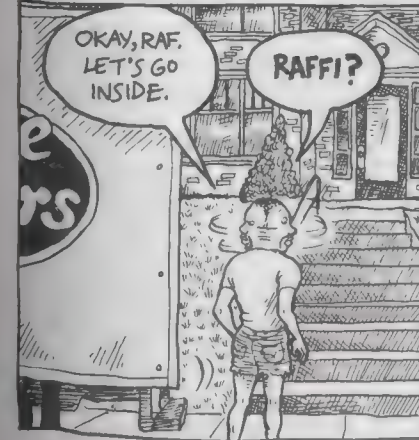
I MEAN, IF IT WERE MY DRESSER, IT WOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM, BUT MY FRIEND'S KIND OF PARTICULAR...

SKRITCH!

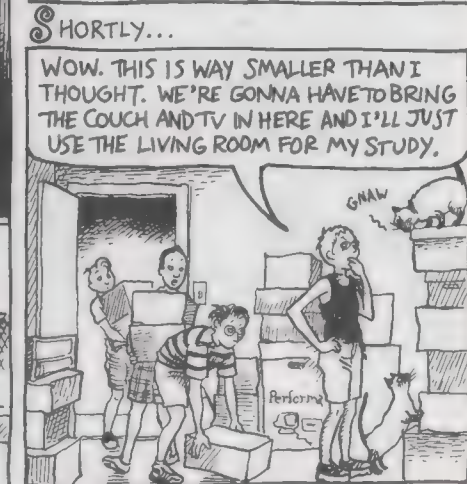
BEEP BEEP BEEP

LIKE THIS GOUGE, FOR EXAMPLE? YOU PROBABLY COULD HAVE AVOIDED THAT WITH A BLANKET...

MEANWHILE, AT THE NEW HOUSE...



ON ROUTE TO MO'S APARTMENT...





RAFFI! QUIT FOOLING AROUND!

HELLO?



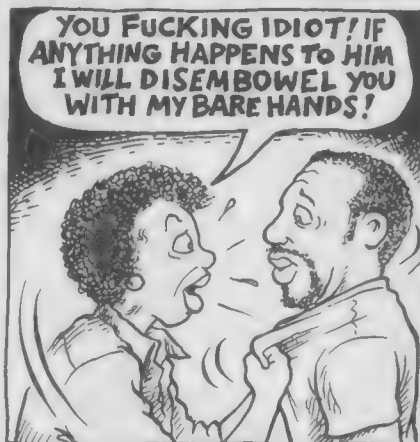
CARLOS! WAS THAT OUR MOVERS DRIVING AWAY JUST NOW? WHAT TOOK THEM SO LONG?

CLARICE! ¡DIOS MIO! I'M SO SORRY!



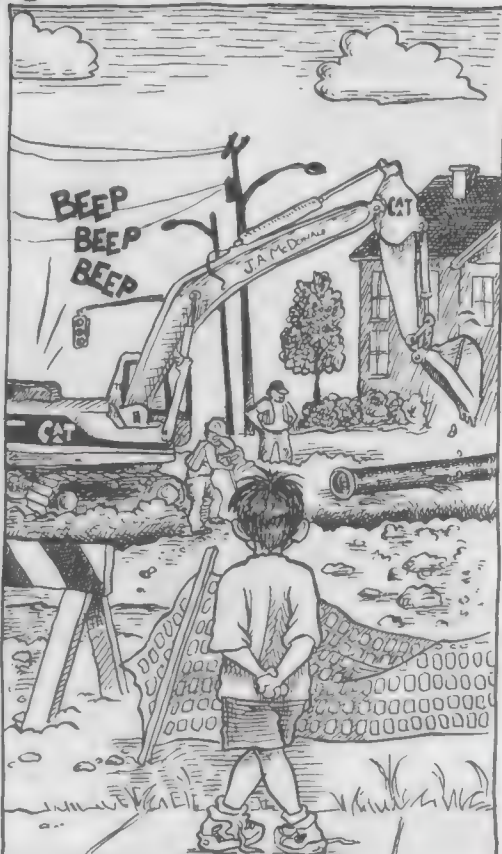
JEEZ, RELAX! IT'S TONI WHOSE ENTIRE LIFE HINGES ON THIS MOVE GOING PERFECTLY ON SCHEDULE. I'M THE LAID-BACK, RATIONAL ONE.

RAFFI'S GONE! I CAN'T FIND HIM ANYWHERE!

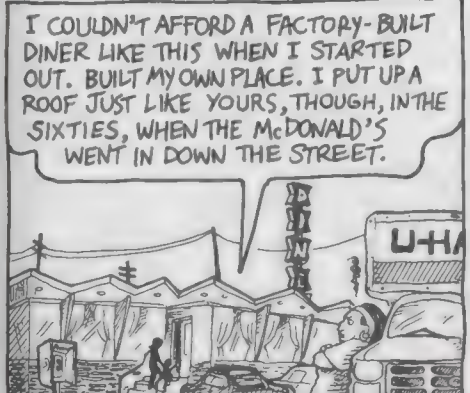


YOU FUCKING IDIOT! IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO HIM I WILL DISEMBOWEL YOU WITH MY BARE HANDS!

SEVERAL BLOCKS AWAY...



227 MILES AWAY...

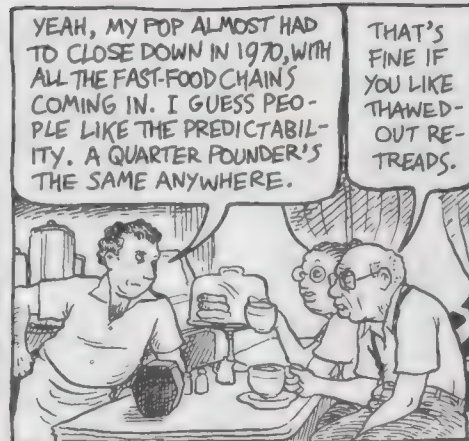


I COULDN'T AFFORD A FACTORY-BUILT DINER LIKE THIS WHEN I STARTED OUT. BUILT MY OWN PLACE. I PUT UP A ROOF JUST LIKE YOURS, THOUGH, IN THE SIXTIES, WHEN THE McDONALD'S WENT IN DOWN THE STREET.



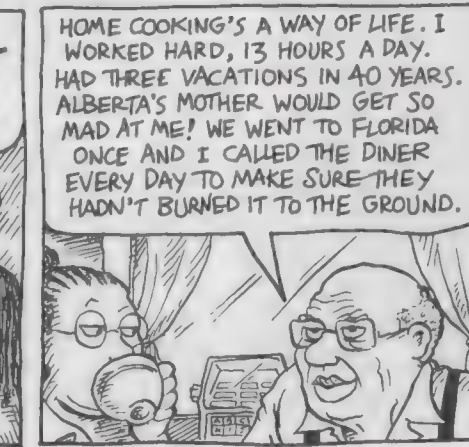
NOW WHEN I TRAVEL, I LIKE TO SAMPLE THE LOCAL FARE. YOU FIND SOME AMAZING THINGS. HADA HOT DOG ONCE UP IN OHIO STUFFED WITH CHEESE, WRAPPED IN THICK BACON, AND DEEP FRIED.

WHOA.



YEAH, MY POP ALMOST HAD TO CLOSE DOWN IN 1970, WITH ALL THE FAST-FOOD CHAINS COMING IN. I GUESS PEOPLE LIKE THE PREDICTABILITY. A QUARTER POUNDER'S THE SAME ANYWHERE.

THAT'S FINE IF YOU LIKE THAWED-OUT RETREADS.

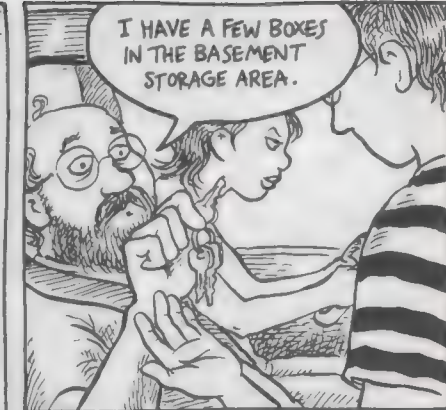
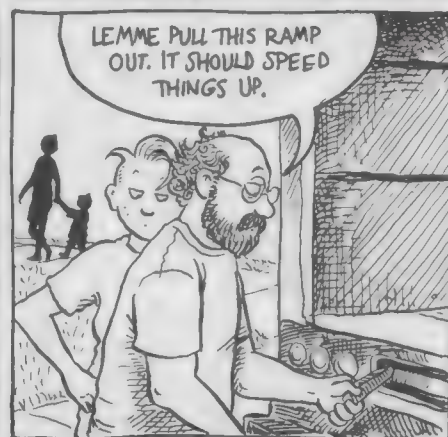
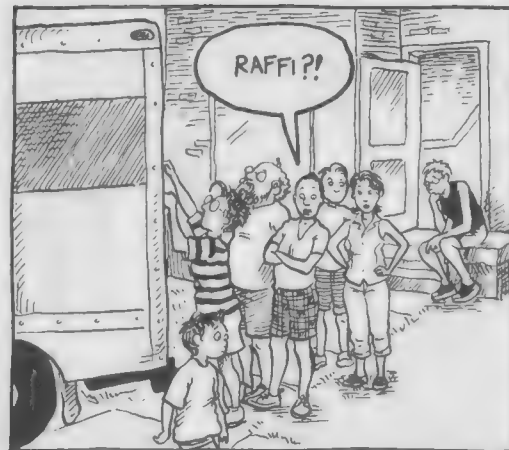


HOME COOKING'S A WAY OF LIFE. I WORKED HARD, 13 HOURS A DAY. HAD THREE VACATIONS IN 40 YEARS. ALBERTA'S MOTHER WOULD GET SO MAD AT ME! WE WENT TO FLORIDA ONCE AND I CALLED THE DINER EVERY DAY TO MAKE SURE THEY HADN'T BURNED IT TO THE GROUND.



THEA? IT'S ME. JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOU AND ANJI HAD EVERYTHING UNDER CONTROL... THE FIRE EXTINGUISHER?! BEHIND THE DOOR TO THE OFFICE! WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?!





MEANWHILE...



WATCH IT! THESE WALLS WERE JUST PAINTED!



AN' I'M GONNA HAVE MY OWN YARD AND A SANDBOX FOR MY BACKHOE. AND MEEMA SAID I COULD GET A PONY.

A PONY?



I MEAN A PUPPY. YEAH, AND MOMMY SAID I COULD TOO IF I STOP HITTING SAM WITH THE TONKAS.

WOW. THAT SOUNDS LIKE A REALLY NICE SETUP.

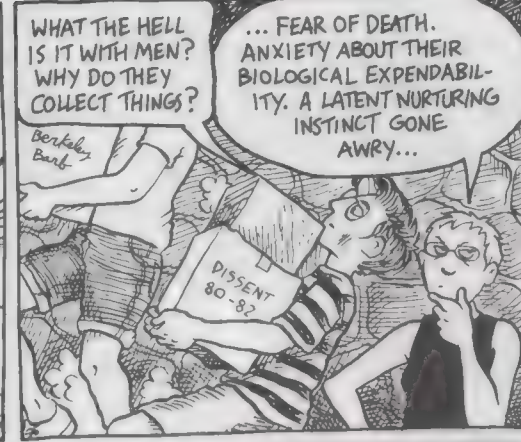


FUCK ME HARD.



JESUS! LOOKS LIKE HE'S BEEN SAVING BACK ISSUES OF THE FREAKING NATION SINCE WATERGATE!

LOOKIT ALL THESE OLD LEFTY PUBLICATIONS. RAMPARTS, EVERGREEN... SOME OF THIS STUFF IS VALUABLE.



WHAT THE HELL IS IT WITH MEN? WHY DO THEY COLLECT THINGS?

... FEAR OF DEATH. ANXIETY ABOUT THEIR BIOLOGICAL EXPENDABILITY. A LATENT NURTURING INSTINCT GONE AWRY...



DR. NAVARRO WILL SEE YOU NOW, STUART.

THANKS, SONYA.



WASN'T THAT LOIS MACGIVER'S HOUSEMATE, SPARROW? WHAT'S SHE DOING WITH THAT GUY?

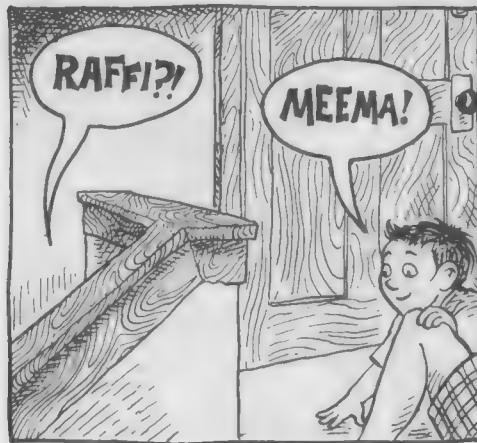
SOMETHING PRETTY ACROBATIC BY THE LOOKS OF IT.



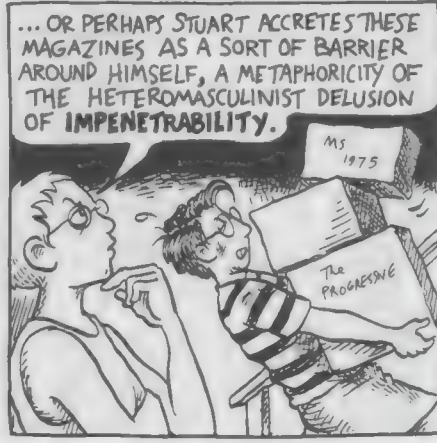
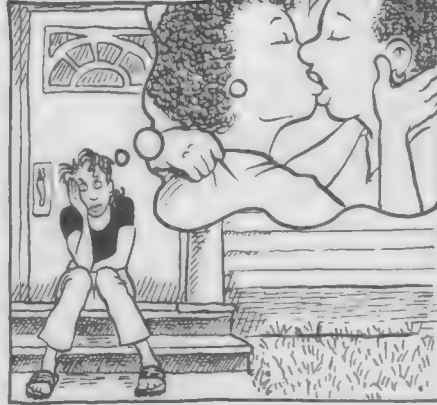
HUH. NO ONE'S HERE.

WHIMPER...

A FEW MINUTES LATER...



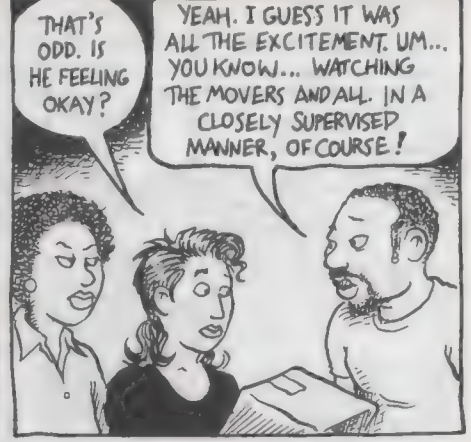
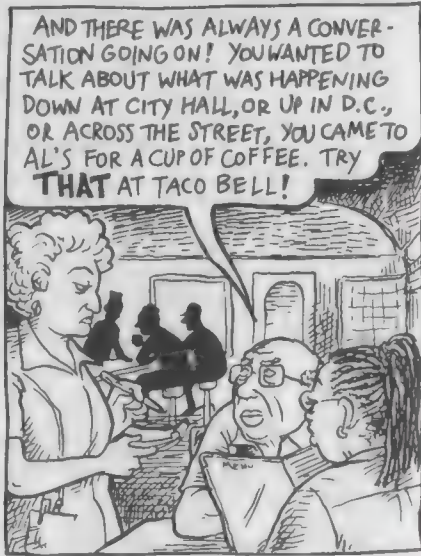
MEANWHILE...

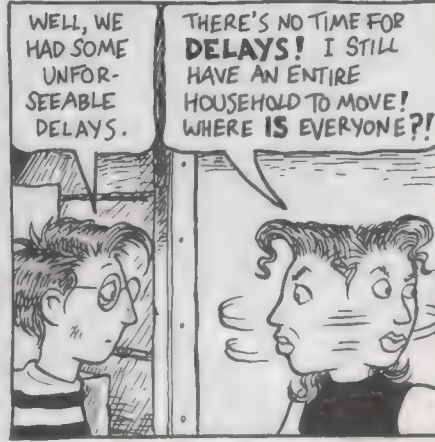
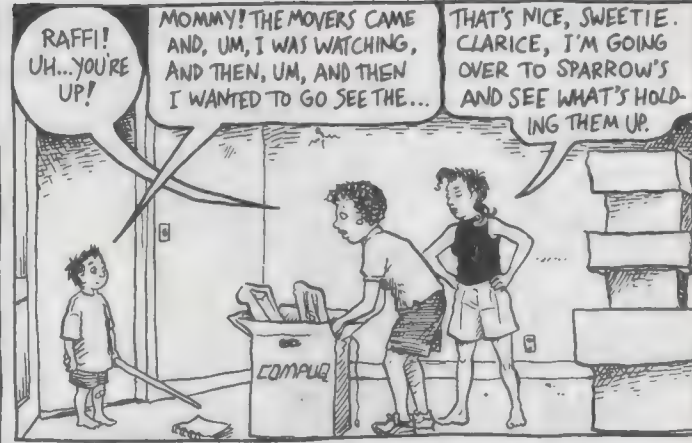
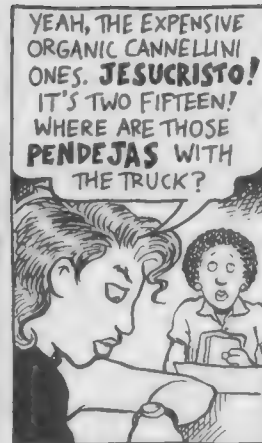
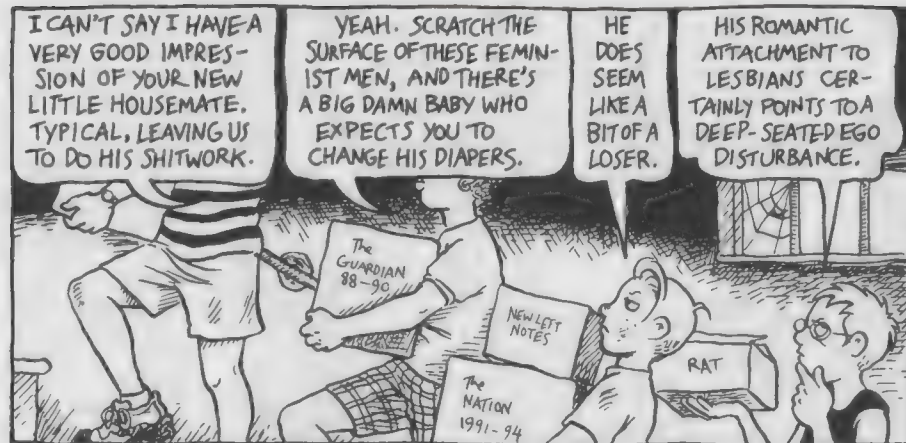


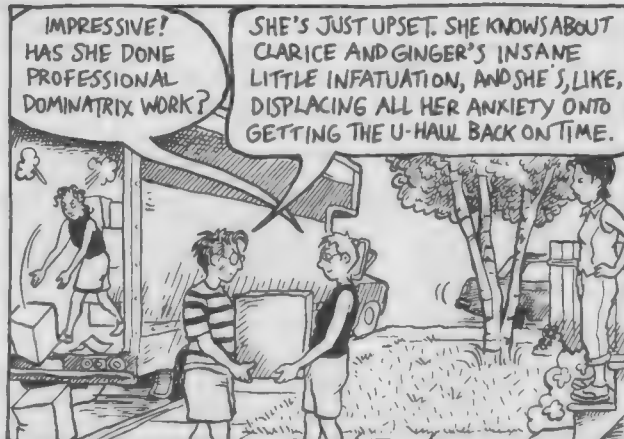
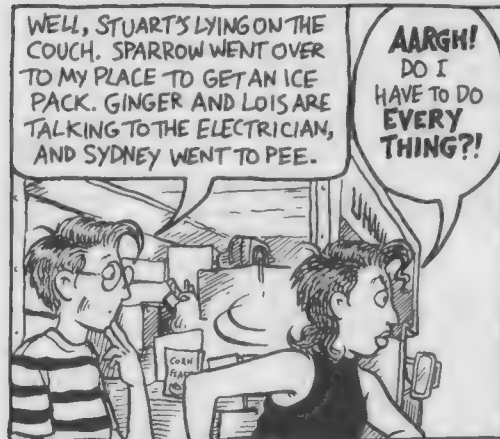




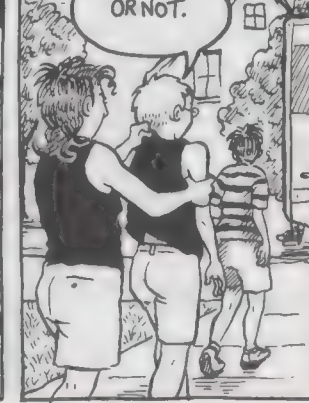
146 MILES AWAY...

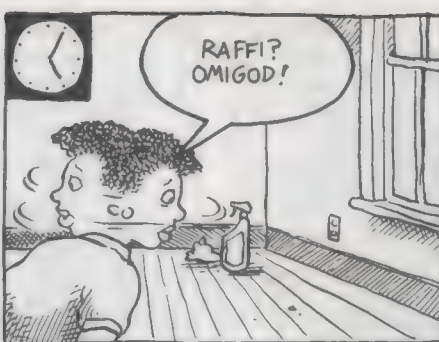
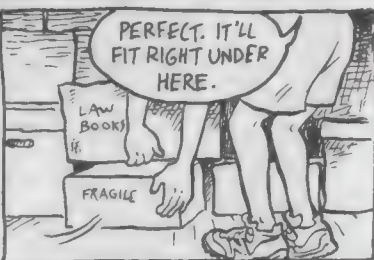




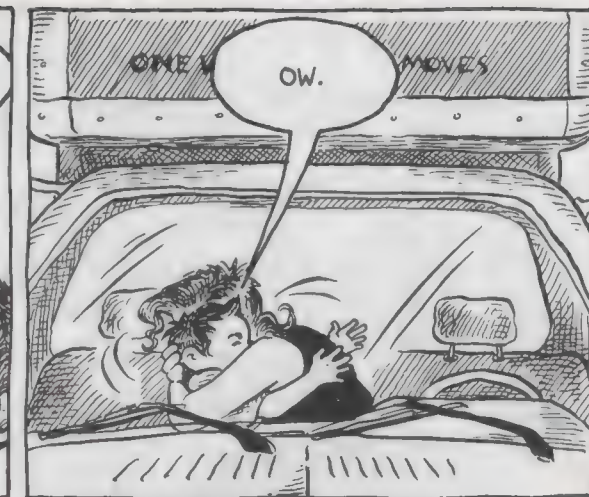


Forty-five minutes later...









20 MINUTES LATER...



YOU'RE LATE. I WAS JUST ABOUT TO CALL THE POLICE.

GUESS YOU'RE JUST GONNA HAVE TO FINE ME.



WELL, DAD. I HOPE THAT SHOOFLY PIE AT THE MISS ROCHESTER DINER WAS WORTH \$300.



WHAT? IT WAS TWO-SEVENTY NINE WITH A DOLLARTIP! I ALWAYS LIKE TO LEAVE A BIG TIP!

WELL, THAT WORKS OUT FINE, THEN. WE'LL JUST COUNT OUR LOST DEPOSIT AND THE LATE CHARGE AS A BIG OLE TIP FOR U-HAUL!



JEZANNA!

TONI! HEY, THIS WAS THE BIG DAY, WASN'T IT?



THAT'S FOUR-0H-NINE TWENTY.



SHEESH! YOU COULD'VE HIRED MOVERS FOR THAT MUCH!

WELL, WE WERE LATE. WEREN'T WE RAFFI?

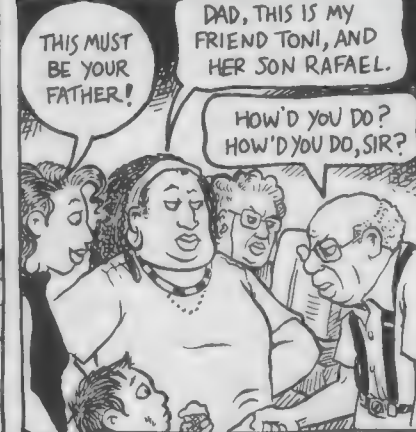


THANKS A LOT!

NAME'S RAMSEY. I'M RETURNING A ONE-WAY.

YOU'RE LATE.

ALBERTA!



THIS MUST BE YOUR FATHER!

DAD, THIS IS MY FRIEND TONI, AND HER SON RAFAEL.

HOW'D YOU DO? HOW'D YOU DO, SIR?



ADAM AND EVE ON A RAFT! IS THAT EUNICE CARUTHERS?

U-HAUL SMALL BOX SALE

WHO WANTS TO KNOW?

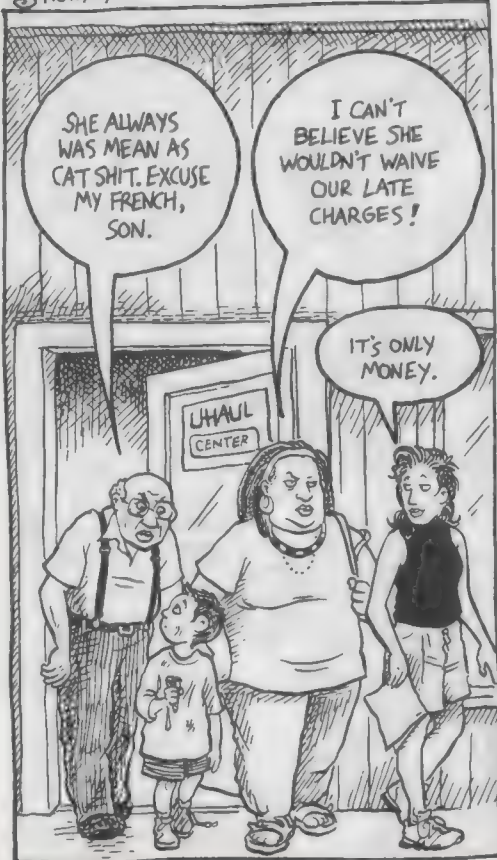


AL'S DINER! YOU WAITRESSED FOR ME BACK IN '78, '79! I'D NEVER FORGET THAT PRETTY FACE!

U-HAUL SMALL BOX SALE

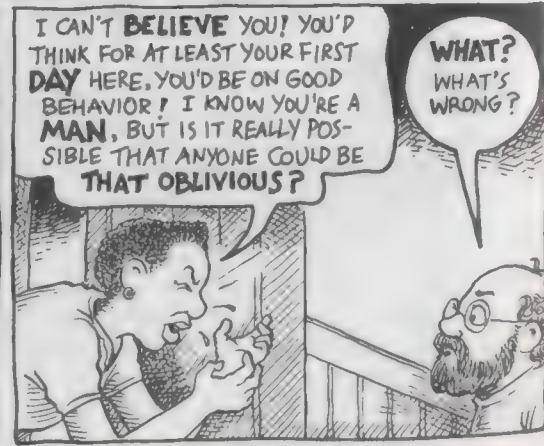
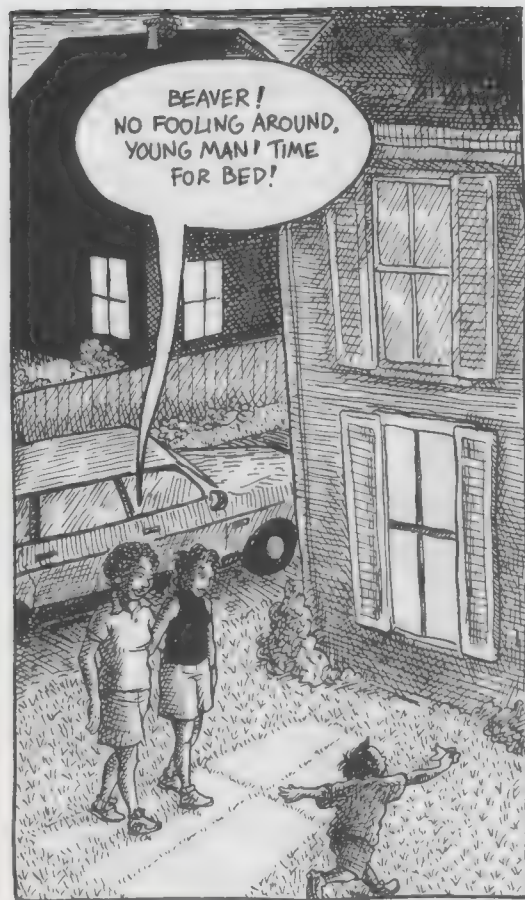
WELL, MR. RAMSEY! HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT? I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU WITHOUT YOUR APRON!

SHORTLY...



A SHORT WHILE LATER...





WHAT?
WHAT'S WRONG?



WHAT'S GOING ON?

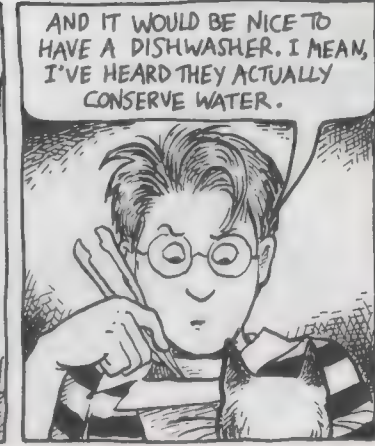
THIS LUNKHEAD LEFT THE TOILET SEAT UP!

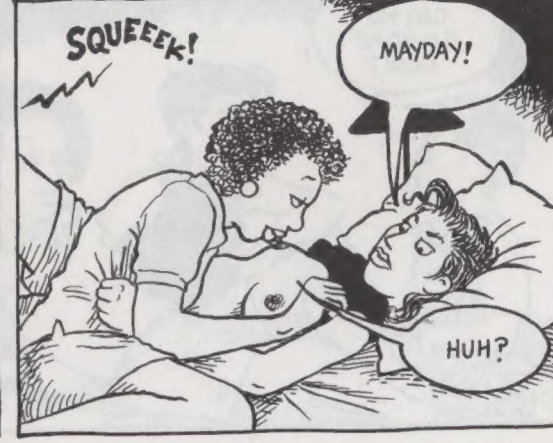
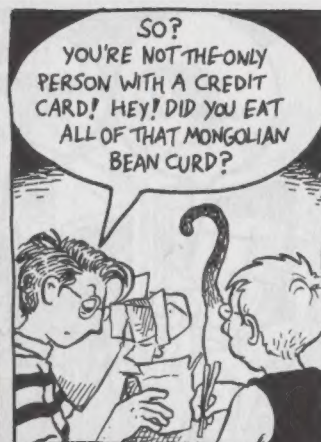


UM... IT REALLY NEEDED IT.

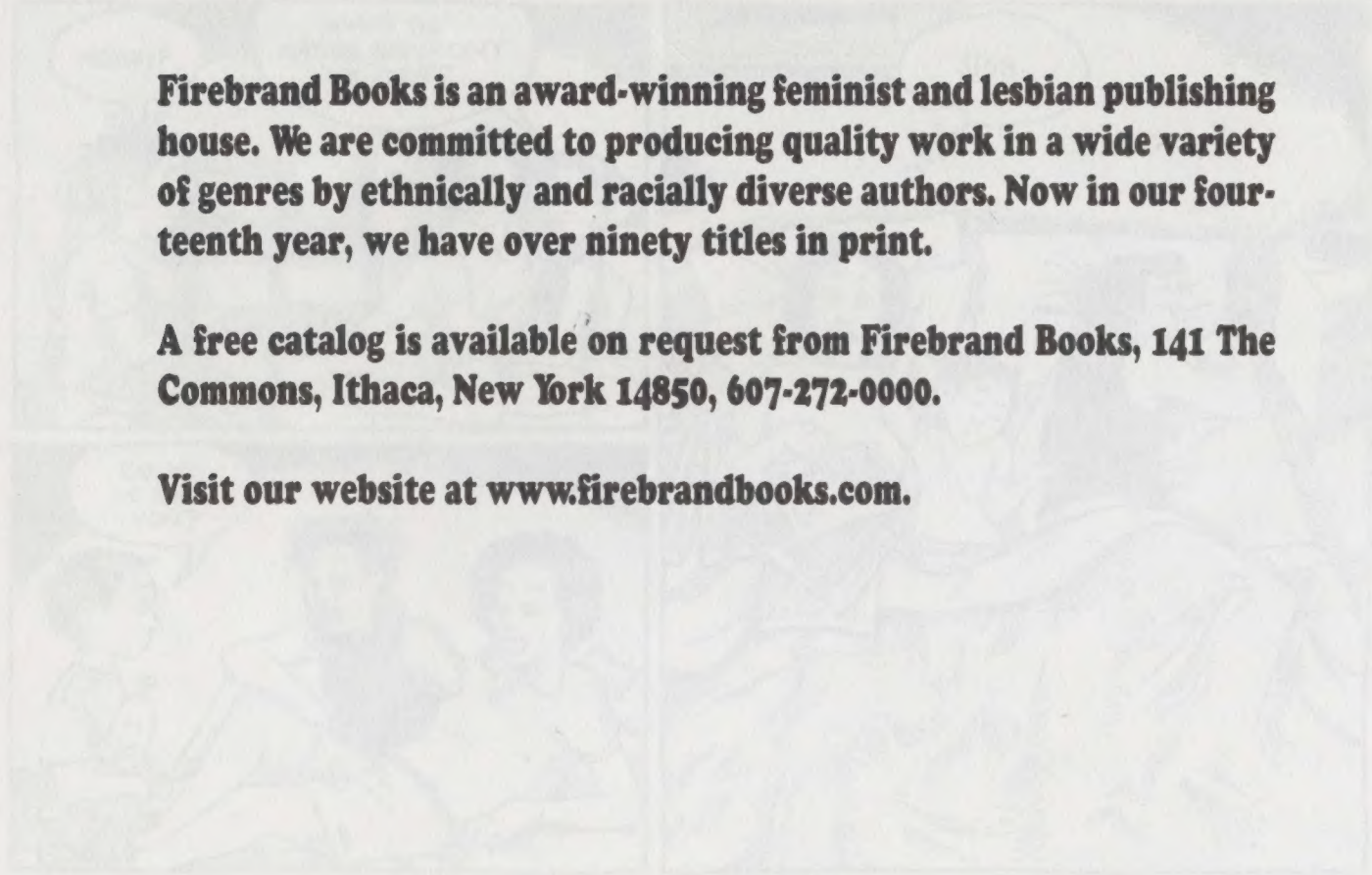


YEAH. THAT SPOT OVER THE STOVE LOOKS JUST LIKE TIPPI HEDREN IN THE BIRDS.









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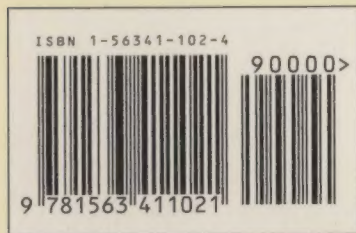
Lesbian Studies/Humor

Big changes are set in motion in *Split-Level Dykes To Watch Out For* when many of Alison Bechdel's best-beloved lesbian gals find themselves on the move. As they come up with plans to shift their living arrangements, their stress-test ratings career off the charts.

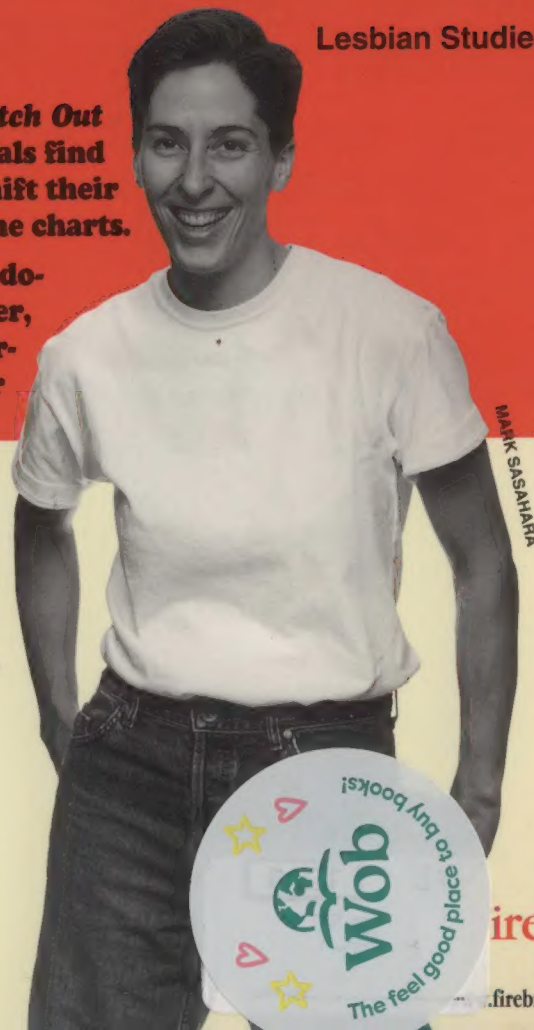
Unwilling to end years of often contentious communal domesticity when their rented house is put up for sale, Ginger, Lois, and Sparrow decide to stay together and make a purchase offer. Jezanna has a man move in—relocating her father to live with her after her mother dies. Mo, ever desirous of righting the bad behavior of others, considers the cost-saving benefits of cohabitation with Sydney.

And all homophobia breaks out—not to mention the other “isms”—when Clarice and Toni head for the suburbs with their son Raffi.

The action and laughs proceed apace in this eighth you-don't-want-to-miss-it collection.



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